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Supplee.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

TO THE

PARISHIONERS

OF

St. Matthew's Church,

FRANCISVILLE,

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

FOR THE YEAR 1881.

PHILADELPHIA:
ALLEN, LANE & SCOTT'S PRINTING HOUSE,
229-231 South Fifth Street.

TO THE

PARISHIONERS OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

FRANCISVILLE, PHILADELPHIA.

MY DEAR FRIENDS:—More than a year has rolled by since I came among you as your Rector, and you gave me so kind and cordial a welcome. The outlook at that time was very far from encouraging, but, to-day, as we look back upon the progress made, and around us upon the tokens of God's presence and blessing, we have every reason to thank God and take courage. In accordance with my custom in former parishes, I herewith present to you a statement of our doings, as a parish, during the past year. Such statements, presented annually, show our progress from year to year, and are an incentive to patient continuance in well-doing, and also an aid to systematic working.

You will find the present statement highly encouraging.

The receipts and expenditures have been as follows :—

RECEIPTS.

From pew rents,		$3,318 08
" Parish Aid Society,		1,842 12
" members of Vestry for vestry-room alteration,		205 14
From sundry sources,		127 99
Net proceeds of lectures by Mr. Marshall,		55 00
From Communion collections,		167 16
Easter offering for Church Improvement,		111 20
Thank offering on re-entering the Church,		80 29
Subscribed for Sunday-school festival,		96 35
Missionary collections, Church,	$304 54	
" " Sunday-school,	266 92	
		571 46
Subscriptions for Church Improvement,		2,626 06
Total receipts from parish for 1881,		9,200 85
Balance from 1880,		100 94
Subscriptions for Church Improvements from friends outside of the parish,		800 00
Total receipts for year,		$10,101 79

EXPENDITURES.

Interest and payments to Building Association,	$1,200 00
Paid on note $75; interest $20.31,	95 31
Salaries,	3,138 34
Coal bills for two years,	317 25
Gas $109.60; water tax $19,	128 60
Insurance,	119 50
Sundries, printing, stamps, &c.,	186 88
Ordinary repairs,	87 75
Church Improvements,	3,713 36
Episcopal Convention Fund,	50 00
Sunday School $59.32; Festival $109.97,	169 29
Carried over,	$9,206 28

Brought forward, . . . $9,206 28

MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE OBJECTS.

Foreign Missions, general,	$36 87	
Africa, through Miss Scott,	30 00	
Japan, through Rev. H. C. Mayer,	81 00	
China, through American Ch. Missionary Association,	35 13	
Mexico,	148 37	
American Church Missionary Society,	118 12	
Deaf mutes,	15 57	
Michigan sufferers,	37 62	
Episcopal Hospital,	41 00	
Aged and infirm clergymen,	34 33	
Alms,	117 75	
		$695 76
Balance in hands of Accounting Warden,	122 05	
Balance of Communion funds,	36 32	
Proceeds of lectures (Mr. Marshall),	41 38	
		$199 75
		$10,101 79

But, notwithstanding these large receipts, we find ourselves at the beginning of this New Year with a floating debt, coming down to us from former years, of $1,299 44

Less balances in hand, ... 199 79

$1,099 65

It is much to be desired that this debt may be speedily extinguished. A united effort on the part of the congregation will easily accomplish this.*

* Since this was written, the note due by the Church for $325 was paid and presented to the Church by a member of the Vestry, who already had contributed very liberally to the fund for Church Improvements. We most heartily thank the generous donor, and trust this example may be an incentive to others to do like liberal things. It is a grand beginning of our work for the New Year.

There is a ground-rent on the Church of $10,000, with annual interest of $600. There is also a mortgage on the parish buildings of $5000, on which we pay $600 yearly, part for interest, and part as a sinking fund to pay off the capital debt. Our indebtedness on this mortgage has thus far been reduced to about $2400, the reduction this past year having been about $445, during the present year it will be about $472, and next year about $507, and so on till the debt is extinguished. About three and one-half years should extinguish this debt, and so relieve us of this annual payment of $600. These payments of interest $600, on mortgage $600, total $1200, are paid out of the receipts of the Parish Aid Society.

This society has been a very valuable and efficient aid, and our thanks are due to the officers and collectors for their earnest co-operation, and to the people for their cheerful and liberal subscriptions. This past year there has been a gain in the receipts of over $200. But we hope, this present year, to increase the receipts to the amount originally aimed at, $3000. The congregation has greatly increased, and therefore the receipts should correspondingly increase. Will you not, dear friends, all unite to accomplish this much to be desired result?

I think the time has come, when, in accordance with the suggestion of our Bishop, an effort should be made to extinguish the ground-rent. I will cheerfully give $1000 of my salary, to help to accomplish this result in the course of this year, if others will co-operate with

me; and I will also do all I can to obtain subscriptions for this purpose outside of the congregation. It is not right for a church of God to be in debt. You, dear friends, had no part in making this debt. It came to you as a *heritage* of burdensome indebtedness. But it is a great hindrance to our prosperity. Let us make a vigorous effort to get rid of it.

I would call especial attention to the offerings for Missionary and Charitable objects. These, more than anything else, show how we are prospering spiritually, and how we are fulfilling our duty as a Church of Christ. Our Lord bids us to glorify our Father in Heaven by our good works. He places us in the world to bring forth much fruit. We may beautify our church; we may have an attractive and impressive ritual; we may be very devout in public worship; we may be generous in our gifts for all these objects; but all is valueless if we are not doing our utmost to abound in all good works, and to bring all our fellow-men to a saving knowledge of Christ. The way to true prosperity as a church and people is to be busy in our Master's work, seeking and saving the lost, preaching His Gospel to every creature. If we are true Christians we are Home Missionaries; our personal influence and labors are telling on all around us. But those beyond our immediate personal influence we can reach only by our gifts and by our prayers. Especially is this true concerning the vast heathen world yet lying in darkness. Let us consider with much and prayerful thought what our duty is to these perishing ones, for whom Christ

died, and whether we are fulfilling this duty. I am very thankful to notice the advance made this past year, the collections for these objects being more than double those of the year before.

The question may be asked, how much ought we to give to religious objects? My ready answer is, brethren, as much as the love of Christ constrains you to give. Under the law, the Jews were commanded to give tithes and offerings, amounting, as has been variously estimated, to from one-fifth to one-third of their entire incomes. But ye, brethren, are not under the law, but under grace. Our Divine Master lays down no rule. He leaves all to the prompting of our grateful love. He points to His life of poverty and toil, and to His death of agony and shame, and says: "All this I did for thee, what wilt thou do in return for me?" He points to souls perishing, and asks us to carry to them the Bread of Eternal Life. Our Lord leaves us free, but our very freedom is testing our love and fidelity to Him.

For the sake of system, and that you may know in advance the objects which solicit your charitable aid, I have arranged the collections for the year 1882 as follows:—

January 15th, Offering for Payment of Floating Debt.
February 19th, Foreign Missions, Africa.
March 19th, American Church Missionary Society.
April 9th, Easter Offering.
April 23d, American Bible Society.
May 21st, Mexican Mission.
June 18th, Foreign Missions, Greece and Asia Minor.
July 16th, Missions to the Indians.

August 20th, American Church Missionary Society.
September 17th, Mexican Mission.
October 15th, Foreign Missions, China and Japan.
November 19th, For Support of Sunday School.
Thanksgiving, Episcopal Hospital.
December 25th, Aged and Infirm Clergymen.

Give cheerfully; give prayerfully; give as unto the Lord, and not as unto man.

Our Sunday-school, under the very efficient superintendence of Mr. Artemas Ward, with the co-operation of our corps of zealous officers and teachers, is in a very flourishing condition. The attendance has been constantly increasing, as may be seen from the following table, prepared by the Secretary, Mr. D. C. Walsh:

	1882. Jan. 1st.	1881. Easter.	Dec'e.	Inc.
Officers,	5	5	..	
Male teachers,	8	7	..	1
Female do.	27	26	..	1
Male scholars,	117	104	..	13
Female do.	131	128	..	3
INFANTS' CLASS.				
Male scholars,	75	66	..	9
Female do.	124	92	..	32
BIBLE CLASSES.				
Male scholars,	18	23	5	..
Female do.	10	17	7	..
Total,	515	468	12	59

SUNDAY SCHOOL COLLECTIONS.	
For Missions,	$266 92
For Parish Aid Society,	391 37
Total,	$658 29

The system of Missionary Collections was introduced into the school last Easter. The large amount collected shows how cordially it has been responded to by the scholars. Of this amount $106.81 were collected during their summer vacation. Two of the scholars, E. Burke McCarthy and Walter Osborne, deserve especial mention. By means of a little fair gotten up by them, they raised ten dollars and fifty cents. But the scholars in general deserve hearty commendation. They have almost all done well. The Lord bless them, and grant this may be the beginning of good works, which shall end only when life's work is done, and He shall summon them to their reward in his presence!

I cannot close this part of my report without cordial thanks, in which I am sure all will unite, to Mr. Artemas Ward, for his services as Superintendent and as Lay-reader, continued during the hottest weather of the summer.

Mrs. Maxwell continues her two Bible classes Sunday morning and afternoon, and the Mothers' meeting on Friday night. The number attending this meeting is twenty-five. In addition to these, she is a most indefatigable and efficient parish visitor, especially among the poor, devoting all her time and strength to the Lord's work. His presence and blessing ever attend her!

I need say but little in reference to the very great improvements made in the Church. They speak for themselves. We have again and again congratulated

one another on the delightful change from the cheerless, barn-like, dilapidated edifice, in which we worshiped one year ago, and the beautiful, cheerful, home-like aspect which greets our eyes to-day. When the contemplated improvements shall be completed, there will be no church in the city more attractive and pleasant than our own. To God we give the praise for what He has enabled us to do. May the Shekinah of His presence dwell in it! May the sunlight of His love and favor and Fatherly benediction make it ever a glad home for our souls, where, in Brotherly love and unity, we shall delight to gather for His worship. I would take this opportunity to thank the kind friends outside of our congregation, who aided us with their generous gifts. I must also express my own sense of obligation to the members of the Vestry, who led in this movement, and contributed to it so largely and so generously.

I have been much encouraged by the steadily increasing attendance on our services. But this attendance is not yet what it should be. Will you not, dear brethren, give prayerful consideration to your duty in this matter? Consider what you owe to the worship of God; what you owe to your own souls; what you owe to your Minister; what you owe to your Brethren. Your very presence at the services is an encouragement and help. A full church is, in itself, an inspiration. If you really desire the growth and prosperity of the church, give it the encouragement of your own presence. What I say is particularly applicable to our

night services. We have given a special invitation to strangers to attend these, and should do all we can to make them attractive by our presence and warm welcome. Our attendance at church should not be a mere matter of impulse, but of principle and established habit. We are to consider not alone the influence upon ourselves, but our influence upon others.

In this connection I would remind you that our service is a service of "*common* prayer" and praise. It is also a *responsive* service; and to make it what it should be, you should each and all heartily and audibly join in these responses. In the ancient church the response of the people was said to be like a clap of thunder. In heaven the responses are like the voices of a great multitude and the sound of many waters. Let our responses be something like this! Let them be glad and joyous and worshipful!

Our singing also might be greatly improved by making it more congregational. At an early day it is intended to commence a singing-class for the Sunday-school. I notice many sweet voices among the scholars, and hope we may have these trained to add to the volume of melody in the church. The making melody to our God in glad praise and thanksgiving is a chief part of his worship. "Let the people praise thee, O God; yea, let all the people praise thee!"

An association has been formed during the year by the ladies of the parish, called the Ladies' Guild of St. Matthew's Church. The first object before them, at present, is preparation for a sale or fair, to be holden

next month; the proceeds of which are to be devoted to furnishing the church with new carpets and cushions. Church fairs, through mismanagement, have fallen into bad repute. But, when properly managed, much may be said in their favor; and especially as enabling persons to contribute materials and work, who can assist in no other way. I shall be much disappointed if this fair shall not be conducted on strictly honorable and Christian principles. And so I commend it earnestly to your sympathy and co-operation. It will need these to make it, as it should be, a success.

But the Ladies' Association has far larger aims than this fair alone. Besides assuming to itself a general oversight and furnishing of the church and parish buildings, it aims to unite the ladies of the parish in all good works within and beyond the bounds of the parish. For instance, it appoints delegates to the Mexican League, who attend the monthly meetings of the League, and report again to the association. Through these delegates $148.37 were sent, last year, to the Mexican Mission field. In like manner, they can unite with the Ward Association for organized charities, and other similar societies. It would be well to have the Parish Visitors appointed by this Association to report to the Rector monthly, at sometime during their regular meetings. I look to this Ladies' Association to become a means of great and increasing usefulness. Let it have our cordial sympathy and prayers, and all needful help.

A system of regular Parish Visiting referred to above,

has been instituted after a plan which I very successfully employed in one of my former parishes. It has already accomplished good in helping to cultivate and foster a social feeling in the parish, and also in bringing to notice cases of sickness and other urgent need. But it has not yet attained that condition of efficiency which I aimed at, and which I hope it will yet attain.

The Beneficial Association of St. Matthew's Church, commenced in 1875, by Dr. Kellogg, has grown to be a great power for good. Organized with a membership of only 11, it has gradually and, of late, very rapidly increased to a present membership of 348. By the payment of fifty cents monthly, any member, in case of sickness, is entitled to receive five dollars weekly, and medical attendance free. In case of the death of any member, an assessment of fifty cents is levied upon each surviving member; out of which not more than $150 are paid to the widow and children of deceased, for funeral expenses. In the case of the death of a member's wife, an assessment of twenty-five cents is levied on each member. Not more than seventy-five dollars are paid to the widower. At the end of each year the association terminates, and the funds in hand are distributed, pro rata, among all the surviving members. The association is then at once reorganized for another year. During the past year the association has paid in sick benefits $801.43, to forty-eight different beneficiaries; and $398.25 in funeral benefits. "The widow and orphan, as well as the wife and widow, can testify to

the good work done." This is truly a Christ-like and Churchly work, and well deserves our sympathy and encouragement. It is an honor to our Church, and does credit to the humane sagacity of Dr. Kellogg in originating it. I am indebted to the indefatigable secretary of this Association, Mr. John J. Gilroy, for these statistics.

During the year, the young people have started with a good deal of energy and vigor, a literary society, called St. Matthew's Literary Association, which has proved very successful thus far, and promises much usefulness in the future. I most cordially commend this association to your friendly encouragement and sympathy.

Baptisms during the year, adults, 6; infants, 14; total, 20. Confirmed, 29. Communicants now on my list, 347. Probably the real number, when I shall get all the names, will be near 400. Marriages, 3. Burials, 21.

It has been my blessed privilege to minister by the bedsides of the sick and dying, and to follow their departing spirits to the very confines of the world of glory. I have witnessed how faith in Jesus can give peace, and patience, and gladness, in the midst of bodily pain and suffering, and how it

> "Can make the dying bed
> Soft as downy pillows are."

We have lost some sweet spirits from our church and from our homes, but Heaven has been the gainer.

The Home above is filling up with loved ones who have gone before to welcome our coming.

The days of our earthly pilgrimage are fast drawing to a close. Soon the Master will be saying to us, "Give an account of thy stewardship, for thou mayest be no longer steward." Let us then be up and doing! Let us improve our present time and opportunities, making the best possible use of the talents intrusted to us, that we may be found by Him faithful stewards.

Your affectionate friend and Pastor,

JOHN P. HUBBARD.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

OF THE

PARISHIONERS

OF

St. Matthew's Church,

FRANCISVILLE,

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

FOR THE YEAR 1883.

PHILADELPHIA:
ALLEN, LANE & SCOTT'S PRINTING HOUSE,
Nos. 229-231 South Fifth Street.
1884.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners:—

ANOTHER year of my rectorship among you and of our united Christian work has passed. Its record is closed and sealed up, to be opened again in the day when the Lord Himself shall summon us to his presence to judge us according to the deeds done in the body.

During the closing days and hours of the old year, we have together, and in our closets, scrutinized our lives and doings during the year; and have solicitously and prayerfully sought to learn how far we have been faithful as stewards, for the various talents entrusted to us, for the opportunities which the past year set before us. A stricter and more impartial scrutiny than our own has reviewed the year. Has it been in approval, or in condemnation? Eternity will reveal. But O, God, so speak to our hearts and consciences, that we may henceforth redeem the time!

I now call your attention to a general review of our church doings, necessarily imperfect and on the surface of things, but which may be helpful as marking our progress. God has continued to bless and prosper us. We have entered the new year under favorable auspices.

The receipts and expenditures for the year 1883 have been as follows:—

Receipts.

Pew rents,	$3,169 49
Parish Aid Society,	1,144 93
Communion collections,	231 89
Missionary collections,	420 87
Subscriptions for church improvements, &c.,	829 20
Collections, &c., for organ fund,	117 00
Ladies' Guild,	171 15
Sunday-school,	1,150 09
Sundry sources,	38 35
Total from parish,	$7,272 97
From Mrs. Admiral Dupont,	25 00
Total from all sources,	$7,297 97
Balance from Ladies' Guild from 1882,	1,651 55
	$8,949 52

Expenditures.

Salaries,	$3,253 36		
Insurance,	94 50		
Repairs and sundries,	302 10		
Gas, water-rent, and coal,	285 13		
Sunday-school expenses,	417 12		
Total ordinary expenses,		$4,352 21	
Sinking fund,	$600 00		
Interest on mortgage,	596 61		
Church improvements,	2,083 97		
Sunday-school bills previous to 1883,	87 99		
Balance due Accounting Warden,	46 00		
		$3,414 57	
		$7,766 78	

Missions and Charities.

Evangelical Knowledge Society,	$16 30		
Indian Missions,	11 85		
Mexico,	13 29		
American Church Missionary Society,	51 95		
Church Temperance Society,	7 60		
General Missions,	33 45		
Episcopal Hospital,	33 34		
Fund for disabled clergy,	16 60		
Diocesan Missions,	25 00		
City Missions,	25 00		
Deaf mutes,	15 00		
Irish Society Missions,	40 00		
McAll Mission, France,	155 00		
Foreign Missions,	42 84		
Home for the Homeless,	10 00		
Communion alms,	140 50		
Various charities, Ladies' Guild,	49 30		
Total Missions and Charities,		$687 02	
Total expenditures,		$8,453 80	
Balance in hands of Accounting Warden,	177 14		
Balance in hands of Treasurer Sunday-school,	151 91		
Balance in hands of Treasurer Ladies' Guild,	119 58		
Balance of Communion Funds	22 09		
Gift in hands of Rector,	25 00		
		$495 72	
			$8,949 52

Debts.

Accrued interest,	$125 00
Salaries due January 1st, 1884,	658 34
Episcopal Fund,	100 00
Bills due,	85 50
Organ fund,	117 00
Church Improvement Fund,	60 85
	$1,146 69
Balances as above deducted,	495 72
Total floating indebtedness,	$650 97
Mortgage on Church,	11,700 00
Total indebtedness,	$12,350 97

A comparison of this with our condition at the beginning of the year shows a gain of $787.95 for the year, as follows :—

Total indebtedness January 1st, 1883,	$13,138 85
" " " " 1884,	12,350 97
Reduction of debt,	$787 98

In the year 1882 we reduced our indebtedness $1452.59, making the reduction for the two years $2240.54. This steady reduction of our indebtedness is very encouraging, and holds out to us the prospect of getting rid of all pecuniary obligations at no distant day.

In addition to this reduction of our indebtedness, it will be noticed that we have raised $829.20 towards church improvements, and that we have on hand $117 towards the purchase of a new organ. The Ladies' Guild also intend to add to this $112.40. To this add twenty-five dollars, gift of Mrs. Dupont, and $500 subscribed by Mr. S. R. Marshall, and we have in all $754.40, available towards an organ. Our present organ is so small and in-

ferior, and so out of order, that we greatly need a new organ, and we should now bend our energies towards obtaining one.

The completion of our improvements last summer makes our church as pleasant and attractive and home-like as any in the city. Our one need now is a good organ. Our present organ is manifestly unsuitable; and the procuring of an organ, in keeping with our other improvements, should now engage our earnest and persistent efforts.

The receipts of the Parish Aid Society have again fallen off. Part of this falling off is due to the fact that the Sunday-school has ceased to contribute directly to it, though it is doing much more to aid our finances in other ways.

I would urge on the people the need of continuing their help through this Society until our debt is finally extinguished. Be not wearied, my brethren, in well doing, for in due season you shall reap if you faint not.

In this connection I would ask you to consider whether you are each of you coming up to the full measure of your obligations and ability to the Divine Master. One-tenth of our income is the least that we should set apart, I will not say as *giving* to the Lord, but as *belonging* to the Lord, under ordinary circumstances, and some should set apart much more than this. All our property belongs to the Lord. We are only his stewards to dispense it in his service. We are to honor the Lord with the *first fruits* of our substance. God has the first claim upon us, and this should be met *before any other claim.* It is the most sacred and imperative of all our debts and obligations. "Will a man rob God?" the prophet asked. "Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say: Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse, for ye have robbed me. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." These words were addressed to the Israelites; but the obligations which are upon us Christians are vastly greater than those which were upon them. "Ye are not your own; ye are bought with a price." I rejoice to notice the self-denying offerings which some of you bring to the Lord; but others, I fear, utterly fail to realize their obligations. My beloved brethren, this is no light matter. Your stewardship for Christ is a blessed privilege, or it is a terrible responsibility. To come to His Communion Table, month by month, and solemnly offer to Him yourself and all you have, to be a "holy, living, and reasonable sacrifice," and then to go away and ignore all this, to go on living carelessly and selfishly, appropriating to your own use that which should be consecrated to the Lord's service, is to bring upon yourself your Master's condemnation as an unfaithful steward. *Neglect* of duties, *neglect* of solemn responsibilities, this, more than open sins, is what is ruining multitudes of souls. "Inasmuch as ye *did it not,*" is the Lord's condemning word to them.

We have some very earnest, diligent helpers in the work of the Parish Aid Society. I would especially commend the work of the collectors. The going about to collect money is not in itself pleasant work; it is only as doing it to the Lord that it becomes a pleasure.

You who are contributors can lighten the task of the collectors by your promptness and cheerfulness in giving, not to the collectors, but to the Lord, whose servants they are; and by speaking to them kind and encouraging words, always bearing in mind that our work and aim and interests are one as fellow-members of His Church, and co-

inheritors of His kingdom and glory. Oh! If we can only fully realize this, what impetus will it give to our work! what delight will it impart to our self-denying labors, and how sweetly and strongly will it bind us together in Him! The Lord Himself help us!

The following REPORT OF THE LADIES' GUILD has been presented by the Assistant Treasurer:—

Early in the year the ladies of the Guild made and donated to the Protestant Episcopal City Mission eighteen garments, and in December thirteen garments were sent to the Home for Consumptives. Articles of clothing were also distributed in the parish to the Woman's Hospital and to Mrs. Brent.

In October two barrels, valued at $35, were sent to Mrs. Brent, in Virginia.

The members of the Guild sent "Christmas Letters" to the patients of the Episcopal Hospital, and contributed $15 to be added to $10 from the Communion Fund for a Christmas box of groceries, sent to a clergyman's family.

A musical and literary entertainment was given on October 30th, under the auspices of the Ladies' Guild, for the benefit of the organ fund, the proceeds of which were $112.40.

RECEIPTS.

From dues,	$28 55	
" sales,	9 70	
" subscriptions,	20 50	
" musical and literary entertainment,	112 40	
Total receipts for 1883,		$171 15
Balance from 1882,		8 73
		$179 88

EXPENDITURES.

Materials for work,	$14 60	
Expressage and freight,	7 70	
Expense of Missionary barrels,	5 75	
Laundry work,	11 00	
Christmas letters for Episcopal Hospital,	6 25	
Christmas box,	15 00	
Balance in hands of Assistant Treasurer,	7 18	
" " " Treasurer,	112 40	
		$179 88

I thank the ladies of the Guild for working on amid many discouragements. The good they have already accomplished, the outpourings of gratitude from those whose sore need they have relieved, must be to them a sufficient reward and incentive. And yet is there the higher incentive to faithfulness and diligence, the looking forward to the Master's word at last: "Well done, good and faithful servant." These ladies have my own most sincere thanks for the encouragement which such labors of love impart to me as their pastor.

The good accomplished through their charities is not the only benefit of the Ladies' Guild. It brings the ladies of the Church together in a pleasant social way. And this is no small gain. Every church should be a band of Christian brothers and sisters, aiding and encouraging one another in their Christian life and duties. In a city church it is not an easy problem how to accomplish this, and bring together the different social elements. Everything that helps in this is a great gain. I would ask the ladies of the congregation to look at this society from this point of view, and those of you who can not attend regularly, can you not become members of the Guild, and attend as often as your other duties will permit; thus extending to the Guild your encouragement and sympathy and aid?

Our Parish Visiting system is not working as efficiently as I could desire. We have a few very energetic and devoted visitors. I thank them heartily for the assistance they have given me. Our parish is very large, including, as connected with it in one way or another, more than three hundred families. Whilst I give, and give very gladly, a great deal of time to parish visiting—in 1883 I made 1292 visits—it is impossible for me, unaided, to supervise the parish as it should be. I would, therefore, once more appeal for helpers in this work. Who will volunteer their services for Christ's sake and the sake of His flock?

At the beginning of the year I called your attention to the reorganization of our Sunday-school. The beneficial results, which I then anticipated, have been more than realized, as shown by the accompanying reports of the Secretary and Treasurer.

Report of the Secretary:—

	1884.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
Officers,	5	5		
Male teachers,	12	9	3	
Female teachers,	29	26	3	
Male scholars,	147	118	29	
Female scholars,	146	124	22	
INFANT CLASS.				
Male scholars,	78	85		7
Female scholars,	91	110		19
BIBLE CLASSES.				
Male scholars,		10		10
Female scholars,	22	20	2	
	530	507	59	36

The main school has increased fifty-one scholars, while the Infant-school has fallen off twenty-six, and the Male Bible Class has been abandoned.

The total increase is twenty-three scholars.

Our school is in a very prosperous condition, the attendance far in excess of several preceding years; all indications point to a bright future.

I know of no suggestions to make, except that the Male Bible Class, in the hands of some energetic person, could be re-established, and that some steps be taken to call out the little ones to fill up the Infant-school, which acts as the feeder to the larger school.

D. C. WALSH,
Secretary.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF ST. MATTHEW'S SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

The receipts of the year have been as follows:—

From Sunday School Fair,	$150 00	
" Japanese Tea Party,	110 50	
" Fair of some younger scholars,	22 00	
" Jugs,	72 95	
" Entertainment by scholars,	80 25	
" Strawberry Festival,	219 31	
" Collections, &c.,	495 08	
		$1,150 09

The expenditures have been as follows:—

Equipment of Sunday School,	$181 70	
Given to Church for sinking fund, &c.,	519 31	
" McAll Mission,	50 00	
" Home for the Homeless,	10 00	
" Arch-deacon Kirby,	1 75	
General expenses,	235 42	
Balance on hand,	151 91	
		$1,150 09

R. S. HUBBARD,
Treasurer.

The gain to the church financially will be shown by the following comparison:—

In 1882 the Sunday School contributed to the Parish Aid Society $407.66; but, on the other hand, the church gave towards the support of the Sunday-school $200.14, leaving unpaid bills amounting to $87.99, which have since been paid. Adding these amounts, we have $288.13, which, deducted from $407.66, leaves $119.83, as the amount in full received from the Sunday-school in 1882, against $519.31 received in 1883.

In addition to this the school has supplied itself with a complete outfit for work, including bibles, hymnals, &c.,

costing $181.70 ; and has also borne its own current expenses, amounting to $235.42, supplying its wants generously and abundantly, and has in its treasury $151.91.

Surely we may say to the teachers and scholars "well done!" The first Fair, which brought in $150, was gotten up by Class No. 20, and was entirely of their own planning and management.

The Japanese Tea Party was gotten up by Class No. 16. The second Fair was planned and managed by four little girls of the school.

The jugs were distributed among the scholars to obtain collections during the summer vacation. One jug brought in by one of the infant scholars, Blanche Winters, contained $5. God bless the dear little ones, and fill their hearts with love to Jesus, and make them ever zealous in good works!

We have had some very earnest teachers added to our ranks, who have brought with them an increase of scholars. My heart overflows with thankfulness to God as I look over our school-room, and see the full classes, and mark the interest manifested by teachers and scholars. I feel greatly cheered and encouraged by the prospect before us. May God's continued blessing rest upon the school! May His Spirit be poured out upon teachers and scholars! To my fellow helpers, the officers and teachers of the school, I extend cordial thanks. I would also affectionately remind them that theirs is no mere voluntary service, to be taken up and laid down at their own pleasure. Beloved friends, you belong to Christ. You are his fellow workers; you are watching for souls, as those who must give account. Do not forget that the one aim you should ever keep before you and labor prayerfully to accomplish, is to bring souls to Christ, and to build up in Christian knowledge and virtue those who already are His.

There seems to be no limit to the growth of our school but lack of teachers. Here, also, I would appeal to those who love Christ to come and help us.

Our church is steadily filling up, and the attendance at our services increasing. This is very encouraging. But the attendance is not yet what it should be. Would that you all so loved the House where God's honor dwelleth that no slight hinderance could ever keep you away. Would that the spirit of Jesus were in your hearts, "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" "The place to seek me, the place where my heart and my home are, is God's House. His work, His service, the worship of His House, are ever first with me." I pray you, brethren, to consider your duty to one another, your duty to your pastor, your duty to Christ in this particular. Think how much depends on your example and influence, on your punctual presence and devout attention, and fervent joining with heart and lips in the service, to make it what it should be, edifying to yourself, attractive to strangers, and encouraging to me, your minister. It should not be mere inclination and whim and feeling which should influence you in your attendance on the services, but principle, the sense of duty to your God and Savior. Brethren, will you not unite with your minister in the effort to make our services what they should be? The Lord himself be in our midst and give us His blessing!

I would especially ask the church officers, the Wardens and Vestry, to consider their duty in this particular, how they should be leaders and examples to the people, how they should hold up their minister's hands and further his efforts.

Mr. John J. Gilroy, secretary, has handed me the following report :—

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF ST. MATTHEW'S YEARLY BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION,

For Year ending January 17th, 1884.

Number of members on the roll last report,		377
Members elected during the year,		56
		433
Members deceased during the year,	2	
Members dropped for non-payment of dues,	48	
		50
Present membership,		383

The widows of two members, who died during the year, were paid $150 each. The wives of five members died, and the sum of seventy-five dollars, funeral benefits, was paid in each case to the widower.

The Visiting Committee, in addition to the great number of visits made by the physicians, have disbursed to eighty-two members the sum of $1480.75 in benefits for sickness, leaving in the treasury over $1000 for distribution to the members, under the plan of annual reorganization.

The membership of the association is limited to four hundred, and applications are now pending to complete the roll to that number.

Baptisms during the year, adults, 3; infants, 14; total, 17. Confirmed, 18. Present number of communicants, 427. Marriages, 9. Funerals, 18.

Mattie Barnard, one of those whom the Lord took to Himself, deserves a tribute of affectionate remembrance. Thank God for such shining examples, such living illustrations of the gospel of Christ. One of you pithily said to me, when I first came among you, "Mattie Barnard is

gold all the way through." It was a true word. Such I ever found her to be—humble, modest, unobtrusive—yet was she a most zealous worker, a generous, self-sacrificing giver, one ever to be relied upon. After weeks and months of lingering sickness; throughout which she was the patient, cheerful sufferer, awaiting her Heavenly Father's will; her Divine Master took her to Himself. Her memory and bright example remain with us. Concerning such we can emphatically say, "We give thee thanks for the good examples of all those thy servants, who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors. And we beseech thee, that we, with all those who are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The years are speeding on towards eternity. The time is rapidly approaching for our departure hence. Shall it be a joyful one? Shall weeping friends, gathered around our remains, say, as they said of Mattie Barnard, "We can only rejoice for her. She has gone home. She has gone to be forever with the Lord she dearly loved and faithfully served." Beloved, let us redeem the short space of time left to us. Let us adopt as our own the words of our Divine Master: "I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work."

May this year witness our renewed consecration, our more abundant labors! Lord, make this year to us a year of spiritual growth and enlargement, for the glory of Thine own great name! Amen.

Your affectionate friend and pastor,

JOHN P. HUBBARD.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

OF THE

PARISHIONERS

OF

St. Matthew's Church,

FRANCISVILLE,

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

FOR THE YEAR 1884.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTING HOUSE OF ALLEN, LANE & SCOTT,
229-231 South Fifth Street.
1885.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners.

In presenting to you my fourth annual statement, it gives me much pleasure to call your attention to its favorable, and, considering the circumstances, I may say very favorable, aspect. The past year has been a year of severe trial in many ways. It has been a year of great depression in business, and of heavy pecuniary losses. Sickness and suffering and death have been familiar to us.

In the Spring your Rector was prostrated by sickness during his usual most busy and fruitful season. When just recovering his strength during the summer vacation, by a severe accident he was again laid aside from duties for several months. Yet, notwithstanding all this, the parish has steadily prospered; showing its coherent strength and energy, and the Lord's presence and blessing.

Your Rector here desires to express to you, my brethren, his deep sense of personal obligation for the patience and forbearance and kindly sympathy extended to him, expressed in so many ways, during his repeated and protracted illnesses. To his brethren of the clergy also, he is largely indebted for their freely proffered and effective aid during the Lenten season, when he was himself thus incapacitated by illness.

The receipts and expenditures for the year 1884 have been as follows:—

Receipts.

Pew rents,	$3,334 23
Parish Aid Society,	1,060 06
Communion collections,	201 75
Missionary collections,	324 86
Sundry sources,	149 46
Subscriptions for organ,	1,959 61
Lenten offerings for sinking fund,	103 39
Easter collection for sinking fund,	104 00
Donations for sinking fund	60 75
Sunday-school,	745 18
Ladies' Guild,	943 37
Total from church,	$8,986 66
From friends, at disposal of Rector,	100 00
Total from all sources,	$9,086 66

Balances from 1883.

Accounting Warden,	$177 14	
Treasurer of Sunday-school,	151 91	
Communion alms,	22 09	
Rector	25 00	
Ladies' Guild,	120 18	
		496 32
		$9,582 98

Expenditures.

Salaries,	$3,566 25	
Insurance,	79 90	
Repairs and sundries,	223 16	
Gas, water, rent, and coal,	331 49	
Sunday-school expenses,	437 21	
Ladies' Guild,	31 64	
Total ordinary expenses,		$4,669 65

Sinking fund	$200 00	
Interest on mortgage,	577 65	
Church improvements,	94 33	
New organ,	2,950 00	
		$3,821 98

Missions and Charities.

McAll Mission,	$26 19	
Evangelical Education Society,	20 35	
Convention fund,	100 00	
Diocesan Missions,	30 20	
Sufferers by Western floods,	53 20	
Church of the Crucifixion,	15 35	
Indian Hope,	27 20	
City Mission,	15 10	
Episcopal Hospital,	30 50	
Fund for Disabled Clergymen,	18 10	
Deaf mutes,	15 00	
Bishop Spaulding,	20 15	
Bishop Paddock,	52 82	
Christmas Letters for Hospital,	6 25	
Communion alms,	191 77	
		* 622 18
		$9,113 81

Balances on Hand January 1st, 1885.

Accounting Warden,	$262 66	
Sunday-school treasurer,	66 67	
Ladies' Guild,	22 77	
Communion fund,	17 07	
Rector,	100 00	
		469 17
		$9,582 98

* Collections not yet Forwarded.

For Foreign Missions,	$24 46	
" Diocesan "	31 97	
		$56 43
Added to former amount,		622 18
Total for Missions and Charities,		$678 61

DEBTS, JANUARY 1ST, 1885.

Accrued interest on mortgage,		$100 00
Salaries due January 1st,		916 78
Coal bill,		64 00
Collections to be forwarded,		56 03
		$1,136 81
Pew rents due,	$200 00	
Balances from 1884,	469 17	
		669 17
		$467 64
Mortgage on church,		11,500 00
Total debt January 1st, 1885,		$11,967 64
Total debt January 1st, 1884,		12,350 97
Difference, showing reduction of debt in 1884,		$383 33

That in addition to putting in a new organ costing $2950, we should have reduced our debt $383.33, is certainly matter for congratulation and thankfulness.

During the four years of my rectorship we have expended outside of current expenses as follows:—

For church improvements,		$9,607 98
Reductions of debt, years 1882–1884,	$2,623 90	
Deducting for church improvements,	766 32	
	$1,857 58	
Estimate as near as possible for 1881,	507 16	
Reductions of debt, years 1881–1884,		2,364 74
Missionary and charitable collections, including payments to Convention Fund,		2,597 89
Total expenditures, extra current expenses,		$14,570 61

All our intended improvements within the church edifice are now completed. Our new organ, built by Messrs. Hook & Hastings of Boston, gives universal satisfaction.

Its sweet and rich tones add greatly to our worship of praise. Our church interior is all that we could desire. It is cheerful, homelike, beautiful.

The Lord himself be with us in his Holy Temple and enable us to worship Him in spirit and in truth! May many souls be born here! And may many souls be trained by the worship of this earthly sanctuary for the higher worship and praise of Heaven!

There are some improvements to the exterior which we hope to see accomplished at some future day. The iron fence should be continued around the west side of the church, and vines be planted to cover it. This would add greatly to the outward appearance of the church at but little cost. The tower also should be carried up above the roof, according to the original plan of the architect.

But what seems the one essential thing now to be done, is the paying off of our debt. As we look around upon our sanctuary, made beautiful and attractive by our self-denying gifts and labors, it greatly mars our enjoyment to think that it does not as yet belong wholly to God, that human creditors have their claim upon it. All that we have done to beautify it, and make it fit for His worship, increases our urgent desire to free it of all incumbrance, and set it apart by solemn rite of consecration for the sole worship and service of Almighty God.

The Parish Aid Society continues to be an effectual helper, though its receipts have somewhat fallen off. The receipts in 1884 were $1060.06, against $1144.96 for 1883, $1119.81 for 1882, deducting $407.66 from Sunday-school. Under the vigorous management of our present Secretary, we trust to see these receipts steadily and largely increasing. The help of this society is absolutely needed for the meeting of current expenses and payment of interest on

mortgage, so that I again earnestly commend it to the congregation, and solicit their continued co-operation. Our grateful consideration is due to the workers and contributors to this society, for their "patient continuance in well doing."

Report of the Ladies' Guild for the Year 1884.

The ladies of the Guild have made and donated to the Woman's Hospital twenty-three garments, also some cards and papers. They have donated eighteen garments to the University Hospital, and a suit of clothing to the Home for Consumptives.

May 6th, $10 were sent to Bishop Spaulding, in addition to $10 from the Sunday-school to aid in establishing a perpetual free bed in St. Luke's Hospital, Denver, Colorado.

The greater part of the year has been devoted to working for a Fair in aid of the Organ Fund. The Fair, in connection with a supper, was held during the first week in December under the auspices of the Ladies' Guild, assisted by many teachers of the Sunday-school and other members of the congregation. The net amount realized was $879.74.

Christmas letters were sent to the patients of the Episcopal Hospital.

Receipts.

From dues,	$33 15	
" sales,	15 98	
" subscriptions,	14 50	
Proceeds of Fair and supper,	1,063 25	
Total receipts for 1884,		$1,126 88
Balance in hands of Assistant Treasurer,	$7 18	
" " " Treasurer,	113 00	
		120 18
		$1,247 06

Expenditures.

Materials for work,	$13 70	
Laundry work,	12 00	
Upholsterery,	3 50	
Cleaning gallery carpet,	2 44	
		$31 64
Christmas letters,	$6 25	
Amount sent to Bishop Spaulding,	10 00	
Money order,	15	
		16 40
Paid to Accounting Warden,	$113 00	
" " "	879 74	
		992 74
Expenses of Fair,	$183 51	
Balance in hands of Assistant Treasurer,	22 77	
		206 28
		$1,247 06

We owe to the members of the Ladies' Guild and their zealous President our most hearty thanks for their earnest labors, and especially do we owe them thanks for their labors connected with the Fair. To them is chiefly due its financial success. We owe hearty thanks, also, to the teachers and members of the Sunday-school for their zealous co-operation. I would return my warm personal thanks to the donors of the gift coming from the Fair, showing such kindly thought and remembrance of me in my absence and sickness.

The Ladies' Guild has already become a most important auxiliary in our church and missionary work. A wide and extending field of usefulness is open before it; and I trust that, by God's guidance and blessing, the future years will show its increasing effectiveness. I commend this association to your sympathy and prayers and kindly co-operation.

Report of the Secretary of St. Matthew's Sunday-school for the Year 1884.

Our rolls show membership during the year :—

Officers,	6
Male teachers,	12
Female do.	33
Male scholars, Main school,	179
Female do. do.	179
Male do. Infant school,	101
Female do. do.	118
do. do. Bible Classes,	18
Musicians,	3
Total,	649

Three teachers have left, to connect themselves with other schools, and four new teachers have taken classes.

Three of the largest classes have been disbanded, and three new classes have been formed.

Owing to the breaking up of the classes referred to, and also to the fact that some 45 of our scholars have left to connect themselves with other schools nearer their residences, our rolls at the opening of the current year show a large falling off in the membership. It is to be hoped, however, that the new additions which usually come to the school in the spring of the year will soon counterbalance this falling off and add increased numbers to our lists.

The attendance continues to be very good and shows no signs of decreasing, while a marked interest is evidenced both on the part of teachers and scholars in the welfare of the school.

Very Respectfully,

D. C. WALSH,

Secretary.

Report of the Treasurer of St. Matthew's Sunday-school for the Year 1884.

Receipts.

Balance on hand from 1883,	$151 91
From entertainment, February 15th,	70 55
" Easter offerings,	51 75
" entertainment by Class No. 16,	50 00
" Strawberry Festival,	113 74
" lecture by Major Veale,	34 60
" collections and various sources,	424 54
Total receipts,	$897 09

Expenditures.

Bishop Spaulding,	$10 00		
Bishop Paddock,	52 82		
Total for Missions,		$62 82	
Church organ fund,	$148 09		
Church current expenses,	150 00		
Church sinking fund,	50 00		
Total for church,		348 09	
Sundry expenses,	$331 01		
Sunday-school organ,	88 50		
Total Sunday-school expenses,		419 51	
Cash balance January 13th, 1885,		66 67	
			$897 09

R. S. HUBBARD,

Treasurer.

God has continued to bless our Sunday-school. Its number of scholars might be greatly increased. To accomplish this we need more teachers; teachers who shall have the one idea and purpose of bringing their scholars to the knowledge and love of God, and who

shall be ready to labor to this end, in single dependence on the aid of God's Holy Spirit; teachers who will prepare for their work by the diligent and prayerful study of the Scriptures, and who will impart to their scholars out of that fullness, which God Himself has given them; teachers full of wisdom and of the Holy Ghost. The machinery of our Sunday-school is admirable, nor is it lacking in the right spirit. We already have earnest and divinely taught teachers, but we want more of God's blessing; we want a larger baptism of His spirit; we want more love for souls; we want to realize the full meaning of our Master's word to us, "Feed my lambs."

It is with deep sorrow and regret I announce, that, owing to his removal to another city, Mr. Artemas Ward has, with the beginning of the year, resigned the superintendency of the school.

We owe Mr. Ward our most grateful thanks for his indefatigable labors, continued through the last seven years. I can testify, how, during the period of my own rectorship, his zealous interest in the welfare of the school and his abundant labors on its behalf have continued. Through storm and sunshine, through the heat of summer and the severe cold of winter, sometimes at great personal cost and risk, his attendance has been unfailing. It pains us to part with him. We shall greatly miss his bright cheeriness and enthusiasm. God go with him and his! God bless him, and give him yet larger opportunities of laboring for His service and glory!

The Rev. Dr. Syle will aid me in taking the superintendence of the school for the present. In this connection, I would state, that, acting with the advice of the vestry, I invited Dr. Syle to serve with me as Assistant Minister, and that he consented to do so for the six

months beginning with the second Sunday in November last. It has been a vast help and relief to me to secure the valuable services of my old friend and brother. We hoped to have labored together for the extension of Christ's kingdom in China. By God's good providence we are now fellow-laborers in this home field. The work is one. It is, here as well as there, to build up Christ's glorious Kingdom, and hasten the day of His coming, and His reign on earth. Brethren, pray for us, that God will mightily help us, and accompany our labors with the outpouring of His Spirit.

Report of St. Matthew's Yearly Beneficial Association.

Number of members on roll date of last report,		383
Number of members elected in 1884,		36
		419
Number of deaths of members,	2	
Number of members dropped,	34	
	—	36
Present membership,		383

The widows or legal representatives of the members who died, received $150 each. Two members received $75 each as funeral benefits on the deaths of their wives.

Receipts.

Dues,	$2,961 42		
Fines,	44 55		
Assessments,	283 75		
Incidentals,	16 94		
		$3,306 66	
Reserve fund from 1883,		191 74	
			$3,498 40

EXPENSES.

General fund for sick benefits, ...	$2,257 01	
Funeral benefits, ...	375 00	
Special fund for benefits, &c., ...	176 68	
Total for benefits, &c., ...	$2,808 69	
Due to special fund, ...	176 27	
Applicable to dividends	513 44	
		$3,498 40

To show what is sought to be gained by the working of this association, I would call your attention to the following facts :—

During the past year two heads of families connected with our Sunday-school died, leaving their families in great destitution, and dependent in part on our charitable contributions. These families have been aided out of our communion alms, and recently by the Ladies' Guild. Had these men been members of the Beneficial Association, their widows would have received $150 each in the time of their extreme need. Could we induce all, in any way connected with our church, to join this Association, a vast deal of suffering and distress would be relieved, and less help required from our church and from others.

God only knows the amount of good directly and indirectly accomplished by this Association. It is a noble and truly Christian benefaction. We heartily wish it God speed.

This statement of our church work shows, that, whilst we have done much for our own Zion, we have not been wholly unmindful of our duties to others. We may be sure of this, that God will prosper us just according as we do His work in the world. A *missionary* church, a church zealous to spread the gospel of Christ throughout

the earth, will always be a *prosperous* church. In watering others, we are watered ourselves. The blessings we impart come back to us. According to our appreciation of the Gospel, according to the power it exerts in our own hearts, and the happiness it spreads over our own lives, will be our desire to extend it to others. And the more we do in thus extending it, the more our hearts go out in compassion and love and prayer and self-denying efforts to those destitute of the Gospel, the more will it become a power in our own hearts and a blessing in our own lives.

Show me a church that is full of Missionary zeal, and there I will show you a church that is active in all *home* charities, a living church, a church where religion shines, a church where God's presence dwells, where His people rejoice.

Never let us suppose that in giving to others we impoverish ourselves. Nay, we grow richer by giving.

We are assured by the wise man, "There is that withholden more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty." My brethren, do we indeed desire to see our church prosper? Do we covet God's blessing? Would we take the most effectual way to secure this? Then let us go out of ourselves; let us give, *give*, GIVE ourselves and our influence and our money for the extension of Christ's blessed Kingdom throughout this whole world!

The collections for the year 1885 will be as follows, unless notice is otherwise given beforehand :

January 18th, Foreign Missions.
February 15th, Convention Fund.
March 15th, American Church Missionary Society.
April 5th, Easter Offering for Sinking Fund.
April 19th, Evangelical Educational Society.
May 17th, Missions to Indians.
June 21st, Diocesan Missions.

July 19th, Deaf Mutes.
August 16th, Sinking Fund.
September 20th, City Missions.
October 18th, McAll Mission, France.
November 15th, American Church Missionary Society.
Thanksgiving Day, Episcopal Hospital.
December 20th, Church Decorations.
Christmas Day, Aged and Infirm Clergymen.

Baptisms for the year, adults 4; infants, 11; total 15. Confirmed, 14. Present number of communicants, 443. Marriages, 6. Funerals, 15.

Thus closes the outward record of our church work. The inward record of the building up of Christ's spiritual Kingdom, of souls brought to the knowledge of His love, of other souls advancing in knowledge and virtue and preparedness for His Kingdom of glory—this record is hidden from us, it is open only to the Searcher of hearts. Mere outward prosperity may deceive us. The Lord, as with His churches of old, may have somewhat against us.

Each individual should carry the scrutiny into his own heart, and should ask, what have I done this past year in the service of my Divine Master? In what way have I shown my gratitude and love and devotion to Him, who died to redeem me? What souls have benefited by my influence and example? Has my light been burning brightly? Have I lived near to God? Have I glorified Him by my life and conversation and good works? And, knowing the deceitfulness of our own hearts, our cry to God should be, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

In laying before you this imperfect outward record, my thoughts run onward to that great day of reckoning, when

we all, Pastor and people, shall be assembled before the Judgment-seat of Christ, to give a strict rendering of account of all the trusts now committed to us; our bodies, our minds, our affections, our personal influence, our talents, our money, our opportunities—our opportunities of self improvement, our opportunities of saving souls, our opportunities of advancing God's Kingdom in the earth. He who sits upon the throne left the glory of Heaven, became poor with this world's utmost poverty, toiled, suffered, died for us; and now He asks, "What hast thou done for me?" Brethren, what is our answer?

What story shall this new year have to tell of our doings? What shall its record be?

Your affectionate friend and Pastor,

JOHN P. HUBBARD.

JANUARY 18th, 1885.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

TO THE

PARISHIONERS

OF

St. Matthew's Church,

FRANCISVILLE,

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

FOR THE YEAR 1885.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTING HOUSE OF ALLEN, LANE & SCOTT,
229-231 South Fifth Street.
1886.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners.

I herewith present to you our usual annual statement of our financial doings during the past year and our financial condition at its close.

Receipts for Year 1885.

Pew rents,		$3,185 12
Parish Aid Society,		922 29
Subscriptions and donations,		848 21
Collections,		775 53
Communion collections,		198 00
Sunday-school,		700 49
Ladies' Guild,		162 50
		$6,792 14
Personal friends of Rector,		145 00
		$6,937 14

Balances, January, 1885.

Accounting Warden,	$262 66	
Sunday-school Treasurer,	66 67	
Ladies' Guild,	22 77	
Communion fund,	17 07	
Rector,	100 00	
		469 17
		$7,406 31

Expenditures.

Salaries,	$3,907 68
Insurance,	97 90
Repairs and sundries,	508 65
Gas, water rent, and coal,	305 73
Sinking fund,	200 00
Organ,	120 68
Sunday-school expenses,	407 45
Interest on mortgage,	573 00
	$6,121 09

Missions and Charities.

Foreign Missions,	$26 25	
McAll Mission,	63 24	
American Church Missionary Society,	45 44	
Jewish Missions,	25 00	
Evangelical Education Society,	17 05	
Indian Hope,	19 00	
All Saints' School, Dakota,	15 00	
City Missions,	18 46	
Diocesan Missions,	30 00	
Bishop Paddock,	50 00	
Deaf mutes,	7 66	
Disabled clergymen,	27 11	
Episcopal Hospital,	44 00	
Convention fund,	75 00	
Poor,	156 00	
Mrs. Brent,	8 59	
		627 80

Balances, January, 1886.

Accounting Warden,	$254 59	
Sunday-school,	154 48	
Ladies' Guild,	3 35	
Rector,	245 00	
		657 42
		$7,406 31

Debts, January 1st, 1886.

Accrued interest on mortgage,		$100 00
Salaries due January 1st,		706 25
Coal bill,		157 50
Repairs of roof,		49 40
Due for furnace, February 1st, proximo,		322 00
		$1,335 15
Pew rents due,	$123 50	
Subscriptions due,	31 00	
Balances, January, 1886,	657 42	
		811 92
		$523 23
Mortgage on church,		11,300 00
Total debt, January, 1886,		$11,823 23
Total debt, January, 1885,		11,967 64
Reduction of debt in 1885,		$144 41

You will notice that while the mortgage debt has been decreased $200, the total indebtedness has decreased only $144.41, showing an increase of floating indebtedness of $55.59. I would call your attention also to the fact that some of our balances are not applicable to the reduction of our floating debt. The amount in the hands of the Accounting Warden, for instance, is mostly a balance belonging to the Organ Fund; and of the balance in the hands of the Treasurer of the Sunday-school, only $125 are applicable to reduction of debt; so that the amount of floating indebtedness to be provided for is actually $838.65.

This floating indebtedness has been a constant drag upon us for years past, varying in amount from $800 to $2000. I believe that the earnest efforts of the congregation this current year will entirely wipe out this indebtedness.

The Young People's Association proposes to hold a Fair early in the year, the proceeds to be devoted to this object; and I trust that their success, added to our other efforts, will put our church in right condition in this respect before the meeting of our next Diocesan Convention.

At our last Diocesan Convention I was obliged to report, for the first time, a large amount of the Rector's salary as remaining unpaid. Since then the attention of the Vestry has been called to the following clause in our charter: "The rents and revenues of this corporation shall be, from time to time, applied for the maintenance and support of the Rector, ministers, and officers of the said church, and in the erection and necessary repairs of the church and churchyard and parsonage house, and other houses which now do, or hereafter shall, belong to the said corporation, and to no other purpose whatsoever."

The Vestry have taken action to have this clause hereafter complied with; so that, in future, no such delinquency can be reported to the Convention. But this makes the need of our Parish Aid Society more imperative than ever to secure prompt payment of the salaries of the members of our choir and our sexton. Voluntary choirs in our cities are a thing of the past, and we may congratulate ourselves that in paying for our music we are aiding in the support of very worthy communicants of the church. Our music will compare very favorably with the more costly music of other churches. We might add very greatly to the effectiveness of our music by having an additional chorus choir of young people. We have in our Sunday-school, and among our other young people, some admirable voices, which, properly trained, and used to swell the harmony of praise in the church, would be a very great help towards making the services of the church, as they

should be, attractive, so obeying the Psalmist's instruction:—

"Praise God in His Sanctuary.
Praise Him in the firmament of His power.
Praise Him for His mighty acts.
Praise Him according to His excellent goodness.
Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet.
Let them sing praises unto Him with the timbrel and harp.
Praise Him with stringed instruments and the pipe.
Praise Him upon the loud cymbals.
Praise Him upon the high-sounding cymbals.
Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord."

Boys' choirs are not to my own individual taste; but they have this great advantage, that they enlist the sympathy and aid of the young in singing God's praises in His sanctuary. A young people's choir, I do earnestly hope, may be successfully established. I do want to see our young people heartily enlisted in the public services of the church. We have a host of young people in our Sunday-school, who are mostly absent from the church. This ought not so to be. I commend this whole subject to your thoughtful consideration.

In this connection I would say, that I have been requested to call the attention of the congregation once more to the matter of responses. And this I most willingly do. It surely cannot need argument to prove that "common prayer" is designed for *all* the people to take part in. Whether communicants or no, we are all God's creatures and subjects, receiving at His hands every good and perfect gift, and dependent on Him for life and breath and all things. It is the duty of all, therefore, to engage in His worship. I would urge all to unite heartily in the responses.

It may be that what you begin as almost mere lip ser-

vice shall stir up your heart to thoughtfulness, and then to devout prayer and praise. The beauty and effectiveness of a liturgical service depend on the people's uniting heartily in it. Responses that are whispered and mumbled over have a chilling effect on the hearer. You are not in church as private worshippers, but as members of the congregation, to offer prayer and praise to God. In the early church, as I have before reminded you, the responses were so fervently given that they were compared to a clap of thunder. Do consider, my brethren, what you owe to others, and not merely what your own feelings dictate. Do your part to make the responses full and hearty.

I am sorry to have to call your attention to a falling off of the receipts of the Parish Aid Society. In 1884 they were $1060.06; in 1885 they were $922.29—a reduction of $137.77, which more than accounts for the increase of our floating indebtedness of $55.59. In comparing receipts from this source with those of former years, it should be borne in mind, that about $400 a year were at that time received from the Sunday-school, while at the same time all the expenses of the Sunday-school were paid out of the church funds; whilst now the Sunday-school is bearing its own expenses, maintaining itself in a much more efficient way, and it is giving to the church funds in other ways. Adding $400 to $922.29 would bring up the receipts from Parish Aid to $1322.29, which still shows a large falling off from the receipts of the first year or two after the organization of this society. I would call the attention of the congregation to the great need of heartily supporting this society. Our receipts from pew rents are about $3200 whilst our current expenses are about $5200, including $600 to the sinking fund. If we assume that the

Sunday-school will pay $200 of this, it leaves a deficit of $1800 to be provided for. And what way is there so feasible, and so little a burden on the congregation, as the method employed by the Parish Aid Society, of the payment of ten cents a week, to be collected monthly? There are very few so poor but what they can give this amount; whilst those whom God has blessed with larger means can, by taking a larger number of shares, contribute twenty, thirty, forty, fifty cents and upwards weekly, and thus the burden will fall equally upon all. But, brethren, ought we to consider the maintenance of God's worship and the publishing the Gospel of His dear Son a burden? Ought we not rather to esteem it a privilege? It is recorded of God's ancient people that they gave willingly. How much more should we, with Christ's example before us, for our sakes becoming poor, that we, through His poverty, might be rich, give with glad and praiseful hearts?

I feel great confidence that you will respond to the appeals made to you to help the work of this society, and that this year will witness a much more prosperous financial condition.

Any way we are steadily reducing the amount of our indebtedness. For this we thank God and take courage.

Under the direction of the Vestry, we began sometime after Easter to take up collections in the church at all our public services. This is as it should be. It is getting to be the general custom in all our churches. Giving to the Lord of our substance, according as He prospers us, should be a part of our stated worship, according to the apostle's precept. I should be glad to see the people rising when their offerings are placed upon the Communion Table, thus recognizing these offerings as their act of Divine Worship. It is a most seemly and ap-

propriate custom, which is prevailing more and more in our Episcopal churches.

Some may be inclined to stigmatize this custom as Ritualistic. But all Christian worship is ritual. The question to be considered is, whether a custom is appropriate, and whether it teaches and impresses truth.

The Lord's Supper is the highest of all rituals It sets forth a great truth visibly before us, under the symbols of bread and wine. Let us earnestly resist all ritual which teaches error; but let us always be ready to adopt any ritual which teaches or symbolizes truth, and adds to the effectiveness of Divine Worship.

There has been a small increase in our offerings for missions and charities. I wish it were much larger. My brethren, the true way to financial prosperity is to consecrate all your substance to the Lord, and to give largely and gladly for the advancement of His kingdom in the world. What mockery it is to pray constantly, "Thy kingdom come," if you *do* nothing for its advancement! If you are sincere in offering that prayer, if it comes from your heart, you will *give* correspondingly. God help us to be followers of His dear Son, doing good to all men as we have opportunity! Some suppose that if we give to others we impoverish ourselves; but the word of God teaches us that "there is that withholdeth more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty," whilst it also teaches us that "the liberal soul shall be made fat." Christian experience confirms this teaching of God's word, and proves that large liberality is the surest way to secure God's blessing on our substance. Some also argue that we ought to concentrate our efforts, and devote all our offerings to the paying off of our indebtedness. But surely this is to overlook the great debt which we owe to

Christ's poor, and to the missionaries, whom He empowers and sends out to preach His Gospel to every creature.

Brethren, be sure of this: we never lose, even pecuniarily, by giving to the Lord, though, like the poor widow whom Christ commended, we should give "out of our poverty all the living" which we have. Try the experiment, and see if the blessing does not come back to you. See if the Lord is not a most generous paymaster. And, oh! taste the joy and delight there is in giving freely and gladly to the Lord's cause. Earn for yourself Christ's welcoming approval, "Well done, good and faithful servant." I will venture this prediction, that if we will largely increase our offerings for missions and charities this year, our financial condition at its close will be largely improved.

Report of the Ladies' Guild for the Year 1885.

The ladies of the Guild made and donated to the Women's Hospital thirteen garments, and sixteen garments to the Home for Consumptives, besides affording relief in several cases of destitution in the congregation.

A package of clothing valued at $10 was sent to a needy family in Yonkers, New York, and a box of groceries worth $8 to Mrs. Brent, Gordonsville, Virginia.

Fifteen dollars were contributed for furnishing an alcove in All Saints' School Sioux Falls, Dakota.

An entertainment for the benefit of the church was given on October 20th, under the auspices of the Ladies' Guild, the proceeds of which were $71.70.

Christmas letters were sent to the patients of the Episcopal Hospital.

In the latter part of the year a committee was formed to visit the sick and strangers in the congregation from whom no return has as yet been received.

RECEIPTS.

From dues,	$27 75
" sales,	21 15
" subscriptions,	37 25
" donations,	4 65
Proceeds of entertainment of October 20th,	71 70
Total receipts for 1885,	$162 50
Balance in hands of Assistant Treasurer,	22 77
	$185 27

EXPENDITURES.

Materials for work,	$20 13
Relaying carpet and matting in sunday-school building,	22 50
Laundry work,	14 00
Repairing sewing-machine,	50
Amount appropriated to aid of destitute family,	4 50
Rent paid for widow,	19 00
Expressage,	59
Groceries sent to Mrs. Brent,	8 00
Amount contributed for All Saints' School, Sioux Falls, Dakota,	15 00
Christmas letters,	6 00
Paid to Accounting Warden	71 70
Balance in hands of Assistant Treasurer,	3 35
	$185 27

I feel greatly indebted to the ladies of the Guild, not alone for the good work which they have done, but also for the aid and encouragement they have given me by their co-operation ; and I would especially return thanks to the president for her zealous and efficient labors. Go on, dear friends, with increased zeal and earnestness, looking ever to Him, for whose sake you are thus laboring. His work is one in which we must often meet with discouragements, and we need to bear in remembrance the Apostle's words,

"Be not weary in well-doing, for in due season ye shall reap, if ye faint not." The reaping the fruit of our labors in Christ's heavenly kingdom will abundantly compensate our pressing on now through toil and discouragement. I earnestly urge the claims of this Association on all the ladies of our congregation.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

The present roll of membership consists of:—

Officers,	5
Teachers,	38
Scholars, Main school,	315
Scholars, Infant school,	150
Musicians,	2
Total,	510

The usual attendance is from three hundred to three hundred and fifty, which I think is very gratifying. These figures, compared with statement of 1884, would seem to indicate a falling off in our membership, and in explanation thereof I would state that the figures for 1884 were made up to show the whole membership during the year, whereas for 1885 the roll is given as it now stands.

During the year a Young Men's Bible Class has been inaugurated under the supervision of Mr. John P. Hubbard, Jr.

The life and activity of our school continues up to its highest standard, and the utmost earnestness is displayed by both scholars and teachers in maintaining its usefulness.

A new heater has been placed in the parish building, and a change made in the old heater, which will supply all the heat needed to properly warm the school and make the children comfortable. New gas chandeliers have been added, and increased flow of gas obtained. The library-

room has been put in good order, and the books re-arranged. Our music is excellent. Each scholar has been presented with a neat prayer book, and every inducement is being held out to draw an increased membership.

Our greatest need is teachers. If several ladies and gentlemen could be induced to act as substitutes in filling places of absentee teachers, (in so large a number it necessarily happens that two or three are absent each Sunday), they would confer a favor on the school, and be of much service in helping on the Master's work.

D. C. WALSH,
Secretary.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

RECEIPTS.

Easter collection,	$80 60
Ordinary collections,	399 83
Collections, &c., for heater,	37 11
Entertainments,	99 11
Strawberry Festival,	83 34
Hymnal sold,	50
	$700 49
Balance from 1884,	66 67
	$767 16

EXPENDITURES.

Diocesan Mission,	$30 00		
Bishop Paddock,	50 00		
		$80 00	
Church, for current expenses,		83 34	
" for sinking fund,		41 89	
General expenses,		407 45	
Balance, January, 1886,		154 48	
			$767 16

R. S. HUBBARD,
Treasurer.

Since Mr. Ward left us, I have assumed the superintendency of the school; but whilst Superintendent in name, Mr. Walsh has been doing the work. I thank him most heartily for his very zealous and efficient aid. During the whole of my Rectorship, Mr. Walsh has been thus zealously laboring; and the successful organization and working of our school are greatly due to him.

Mr. D'Olier has had charge of the music, and his success in training the scholars was evidenced in the admirable singing of the school at our Christmas anniversary.

It is a great delight to me to witness the constant and steady improvement of our school. Our one great need now is some one well skilled in Sunday-school work to take the superintendency of our school, and devote to it his time and energies. It is a field which will well repay the time and labors expended on it.

We now have among our Sunday-school officers those well qualified for this post, but we cannot spare them from their present positions of great usefulness.

I would call especial attention to what Mr. Walsh says concerning our need of some to take the place of substitutes in teaching the classes of teachers who may be absent. Our school suffers greatly, and we are losing scholars for the want of such substitutes. It would be a help if those qualified would offer their services occasionally, as they are able to come to the school.

STATEMENT FOR 1885.

ST. MATTHEW'S YEARLY BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION.

RECEIPTS.

By special fund of 1884,	$176 27	
" dues,	2,960 46	
" fines,	47 30	
" funeral assessments,	549 00	
		$3,733 03

EXPENDITURES.

For sick benefits, doctors, &c., ...	$1,625 50	
" funeral benefits, ...	525 00	
" benefits, &c., from special fund, . . .	49 37	
		2,199 87
Balance applicable to dividend and special fund, . .		$1,533 16

Number of members at beginning of the year, ...	383	
" " elected during " "	55	
		438
" " dropped during the year, ...	43	
" " died " " "	2	
		45
Total number now in good standing, ...		393

JOHN JAY GILROY,
Secretary.

I have no report from the Brotherhood of St. Matthew's Church. It has been doing some good work during the year in visiting the sick, but it is yet the day of small things. I hope to be able to report a much greater efficiency and usefulness in the future.

During the year 39 were baptized; adults 7, infants 32; confirmed, 35; communicants, 477; marriages, 6; funerals, 16.

Thus closes the record for the past year, which shows, so far as mere statistics can show, continued prosperity and increase. Thus our number of communicants has steadily increased. The attendance at our services has, on the whole, increased. If we compare our temporal condition with that of former years, here also we shall find

steady improvement. In 1878 Dr. Kellogg reported the total debt as $17,000, including a floating debt of $2000. In 1879 he reported the total debt as $16,500. Since then we have reduced this indebtedness to $11,823.23, besides spending over $10,000 on church improvements. All this should encourage us, and should incite us to go forward with hopefulness and zeal and diligence.

"Our work is Thine, Lord Jesus Christ,
We follow Thy command;
And as Thy work, most dearly prized,
It shall forever stand."

My beloved brethren, let me urge you to take the interests of St. Matthew's Church yet more closely to heart. Here, in the providence of God, is your divinely appointed field of work. Give it your best thought, give it your time and energies and labors, and your constant earnest prayers. You called me to take the oversight of this work from a distant field of labor. I obeyed the call as a call from God. If it was my duty to come from a distance to give my time and energies and means to the building up of St. Matthew's Church, how much more should you, who already had your homes here, and who thus were personally interested in the church, give your time and energies and means to it!

I think, my brethren, that there is too little sense of personal responsibility in this matter. Do you not make your attendance upon the services too much a matter of mere impulse and inclination, and not enough a matter of principle? Do you sufficiently consider how much our success as a church depends on your personal example and influence, and how your presence in the congregation and hearty interest in the services give encouragement to your brethren?

Forgive me, if I say that there is not in St. Matthew's Church that loyal love and zeal for the church which there should be. I do not mean love and zeal for the church in a general sense, but love and zeal for this particular church. True love and zeal for the church at large will be best shown by love and zeal for the particular church where Providence has cast our lot, manifested by our self-denying labors in its behalf. There are bright exceptions to what I am here saying; and I heartily thank many of you who have strengthened my hands and cheered my heart by your untiring performance of all church duties. But a better reward awaits you than my poor thanks in the approving word of your Divine Master. It is for Him you are working. The Church is His. "Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for it."

Let this be the text and all-sufficient incentive to call forth your utmost endeavors for advancing the prosperity of the church this new year on which we have entered. The Lord Himself lead us into all the works He has prepared for us to walk in, and give us his blessing.

Your affectionate friend and Pastor,

JOHN P. HUBBARD.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

TO THE

PARISHIONERS

OF

St. Matthew's Church,

FRANCISVILLE,

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

FOR THE YEAR 1886.

PHILADELPHIA:
ALLEN, LANE & SCOTT'S PRINTING HOUSE,
Nos. 229, 231, and 233 South Fifth Street.
1887.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners.

The receipts and expenditures of St. Matthew's Church for the year 1886 have been as follows :—

Receipts for Year 1886.

Pew rents,	$3,099 99
Parish Aid Society,	641 55
Collections, current expenses,	443 82
Collections, &c., for Missions,	462 99
Collections for sinking fund,	367 45
Sundry sources,	42 95
Sunday-school,	582 45
Young People's Association,	1,069 82
Ladies' Guild,	38 65
Strawberry festival,	94 91
Communion collections,	184 99
Donations,	3,025 53
	$10,055 10

Balances, January 1st, 1886.

Accounting Warden,	$254 59	
Sunday-school,	154 48	
Rector,	245 00	
Ladies' Guild,	3 35	
		657 42
		$10,712 52

Expenditures for Year 1886.

Salaries,	$3,335 71
Interest on mortgage,	476 72
Gas, water rent and coal,	357 86
Insurance,	53 90
Sundries and repairs,	496 43
New heater,	322 00
New stained window,	43 00
Sunday-school expenses,	445 79
Sinking fund,	3,400 00
Permanent insurance,	400 00
	$9,331 41

Missions and Charities.

Foreign Missions,	$54 86	
City Missions,	19 65	
Diocesan Missions,	99 96	
Convention fund,	75 00	
Jewish Mission,	13 45	
Indian Mission,	23 00	
Freedmen,	41 00	
Sunday Missions,	87 00	
Home for Homeless,	10 00	
Deaf mutes,	14 09	
Evangelical Educational Society,	24 22	
Charleston Churches,	29 04	
Episcopal Hospital,	46 22	
American Church Missionary Society,	15 23	
isabled clergymen,	18 27	
Poor,	114 35	
		685 34

Balances January 1st, 1887.

Young People's Association,	$369 82
Sunday-school,	50 64
Ladies' Guild,	6 66
Sinking fund,	43 52

Organ fund,		$233 86	
Convention fund,		43 76	
		$748 26	
Less			
Due Current fund,	$35 59		
" Communion Fund,	16 90		
		52 49	
			$695 77
			$10,712 52

Indebtedness, January 1st, 1887.

Accrued interest on mortgage,		$92 00
Salaries,		664 59
Coal bill,		210 00
Convention fund,		125 00
Communion alms,		16 90
Accounting Warden,		35 59
		$1,144 08
Pew rents due,	$175 00	
Balances,	748 26	
		923 26
		$220 82
Mortgage on church,		7,900 00
Total indebtedness, January 1st, 1887,		$8,120 82
Total indebtedness, January 1st, 1886,		11,823 23
Reduction of debt,		$3,702 41
Invested in permanent insurance,		400 00
Total gain for 1886,		$4,102 41

Floating Debt.

The Accounting Warden reports a shortage, January 1st, 1887, ...	$816 42
Due Communion account, ...	16 90
Total floating debt, ...	$833 32
This includes amount due to Convention fund. The amount of floating debt, including amount due to Convention fund January 1st, 1886, and paid out of current funds of the year, was	$913 65
Reduction of floating debt during year 1886, ...	$80 33

This floating debt has been an incubus of many years' standing. Those familiar with the financial condition of the church in the years preceding my rectorship tell us that this has been always so within their recollection. The reports to Convention show that this was so as far back as 1875—thus in 1878 Dr. Kellogg reported "Floating debt, $2000."

I had hoped that this floating indebtedness would have been extinguished before this; but of late we have been giving our energies almost exclusively to the payment of the mortgage. Although I am at times personally inconvenienced by my salary falling into arrears, I am well content to put up with this inconvenience so long as we are thus vigorously at work reducing this chief debt. Let this incumbrance be wiped out, the meeting of our current expenditures will be made more simple and easy.

The investment of $400 in perpetual insurance saves the annual payment of sixty-four dollars for insurance, equal to sixteen per cent. instead of five per cent., if this amount had been used for reduction of the mortgage. We are in-

debted to the Young People's Association for this payment and this large saving of interest.

Of the $3400 paid on mortgage, $2750 were donated by Christian friends outside our own congregation. The task of soliciting pecuniary aid is no easy one, but the kindly sympathy and generous aid I received were, in many instances, more than a compensation. One lady especially gave me first $500, then $1000, and recently, since the beginning of this year, another $1000. And this was done in such a kindly, considerate way that I shall ever bear it in grateful remembrance. I would take this opportunity once more to thank the friends who have thus aided us, in the name of St. Matthew's Church, and the name of the Divine Master, for whose sake the gifts were made.

Since the beginning of this year $1500 more have been paid on the mortgage. It is now reduced to $6400, with pledges due for $150, which will reduce it still further to $6250. We have other pledges due in the future, amounting to $450. If our people will raise $4000, I will guarantee to secure the balance necessary to entirely extinguish the debt.

Our current expenses are being constantly lessened by the steady reduction of our debt. The saving of interest and of premiums on insurance during the last twelve months amounted to $310. The payment of the balance of the debt would save us $315 more.

Once more I commend the Parish Aid Society to your prayerful consideration. If all will take part in this by subscribing for one or more shares, according to their ability, there will be no difficulty in meeting our current expenses and paying off our floating indebtedness.

Before dismissing the consideration of the financial con-

dition of the church, I would suggest whether it might not be well for some of you to make bequests to St. Matthew's Church in your wills. I would not have this take the place of giving in your lifetime. I have no good opinion of those who put off their charities to a dying day, and who give at the expense of their wives and children, what they have no longer need of themselves. But there are those whose bequests are the consistent following up of lives of generous beneficence. With others of limited means the claims of the church may be nearer, and more paramount to those of the heirs-at-law.

In all probability there will always be a population surrounding St. Matthew's Church to whom its ministrations should be partly or wholly gratuitous. For my part I would like to see it a free church. My personal experience in former parishes is altogether in favor of the free pew system.

To make the ministrations of St. Matthew's Church thoroughly effective an endowment fund would be an essential. Bequests might be made specially towards such a fund, or towards the procurement of a rectory.

I am exceedingly desirous of seeing our church entirely freed from debt. It should rest as a burden on all our hearts till this is accomplished; but what I am vastly more desirous of is the *spiritual prosperity* of our people. The kingdom of God cometh not with observation. The Lord alone knoweth those who are truly His, and how we each one of us stand in our personal relation to Him. Many of you are earnest workers, but I long to see all living up to the fullness of their privileges as sons of God and brethren of Christ. Pray for me that I may be a more effectual teacher and leader in spiritual things. Never did I feel more our entire dependence on the

Holy Spirit to make our Christianity a real living thing. Let us plead importunately, incessantly for His Presence and mighty working in our midst. There is a vast work to be done. The recent house-to-house visitation has partially revealed the spiritual destitution all around us. We have recently added a new clause to our litany, "That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thine harvest." Are we ready ourselves to go forth, as Christ's laborers, to gather in these perishing ones?

In my annual statement of last year, I said, "I should be glad to see the people rising when their offerings are placed upon the Communion Table, thus recognizing these offerings as their act of Divine Worship." On Easter Sunday, before presenting the offerings, amounting in money and pledges to $4291.45, I said to the congregation after reading the rubric in the Communion office in reference to the presentation of alms, "If it be the duty of the Wardens and others thus reverently to bring the offerings of the people to the Priest, and for the Priest to humbly present and place them upon the holy table; it would seem fitting that the *people*, who have made the offerings (the *devotions* of the people, the rubric says) should, in some way, express their own concurrence in this act, there has therefore grown up in our church the custom of rising when the alms are presented, while the choir leads in some appropriate sentence of acknowledgment and praise to God. It has seemed to me eminently fitting and appropriate, that, on such an occasion as this, when we are to present such large offerings to God of what He has first given us, we should solemnly and thankfully unite in the act of presentation by rising and joining with the choir in giving praise and glory to Almighty God. I have, therefore, after consultation with

many members of our church, asked the choir to lead us in this act of worship."

I am glad to say that this most appropriate and solemn mode of presentation has now become our regular custom. It is a custom which at one time I was greatly prejudiced against; but fuller consideration of its meaning removed my prejudices. We should, my friends, hold our minds open to conviction in reference to all such customs, involving matters of taste and expediency and propriety. We cannot go amiss in adopting customs which add to the solemnity and reverence becoming Divine Worship. We need every possible help to impress upon us that we are in God's Holy Temple, and that what we do is done unto Him.

The responses in the service are now made much more audibly and heartily. I thank you, dear friends, for your compliance with my request to you in reference to these, made last year. I look for still further improvement in this particular. Will you not, each one, do his or her part to make this part of divine worship what it should be?

We owe thanks to the young men, appointed to act as ushers by the Young People's Association, who have been rendering such effective aid to Mr. Marshall and Mr. Bonsall, our Vestry's Committee on Hospitality, in extending a welcome to the strangers coming to our church. It is our earnest desire to make all such feel at home as they enter our common Father's house, and we gratefully appreciate the zealous offices of these young men who are aiding us in this.

The Young People's Association has become a very effective help in our parish work in many ways. Subjoined I give their report.

Report of the Young People's Association of St. Matthew's Church.

In the fall of 1885 some of the young ladies of the parish felt the need of definite, organized work for the young people, both for the purpose of bringing us more together and for the strengthening of church life. They consulted together, and the result was a meeting of all those interested, and the formation of "The Young People's Association of St. Matthew's Church." There have been meetings ever since, every Friday evening, except through the summer months, in the Parish Building; the early part of the evening being devoted to sewing by the young ladies, and, then, the last hour or so being given to amusements of various kinds.

Since its organization, the Association has been splendidly successful, in bringing the young people together in a pleasant way, and in the amount of actual work accomplished. Every one entered with spirited interest into both the fair of last spring and the entertainment of the autumn, and the report of the Treasurer shows, in consequence, a financial success far beyond all anticipations.

President of the Association.

Report of the Treasurer of the Young Peoples' Association of St. Matthew's Church.

Receipts.

To amounts received from January to March, ...	$30 90
" " " " fair, March, 1886, ...	867 40
" " " " March to June, ...	52 31
" " " " entertainment, ...	350 24
" " " " children's fair, ...	115 00
" " " " November, '86, to January, '87,	11 92
	$1,427 77

EXPENDITURES.

By expenses (running),	$35 56	
" paid running expenses,	35 00	
" " expenses of fair,	156 15	
" " " of entertainment,	131 24	
		$357 95
" " D. C. Walsh, church debt,	700 00	
" amount in treasury towards church debt,	334 00	
		1,034 00
" balance in treasury,		35 82
		$1,427 77

J. P. HUBBARD, JR.,
Treasurer.

I would add to the above report of the Young People's Association, my own warm commendation of this society, and my sense of very great personal obligation to the members and officers, and especially to the zealous and indefatigable President, for their exceedingly efficient aid in the work of the parish, and in the reduction of the mortgage. They have done nobly.

REPORT OF THE LADIES' GUILD FOR THE YEAR 1886.

During the year the members of the Guild have made and donated to the Home for Incurables eleven garments, to the Woman's Hospital twelve, to the Home for Consumptives nine, and to a family in the congregation nineteen garments. Christmas letters have been sent to the patients of the Episcopal Hospital; also some old linen and a donation to the Children's Ward, consisting of thirty-six garments and some books, toys, and pictures.

Two dozen aprons were donated to the Young People's Association for their bazaar, and others were sold for the benefit of the Guild.

The Visiting Committee reported one parish visit and eleven visits to the sick.

The ladies have been encouraged by the addition of several new members to the Guild, and hope that others of the congregation will join their number.

RECEIPTS.

From dues,	$25 40
" sales,	3 45
" subscriptions,	9 80
Total receipts for 1886,	$38 65
Balance in hands of Assistant Treasurer,	3 35
	$42 00

EXPENDITURES.

Materials for work,	$7 34
Repairing footstools in pews,	50
Laundry work,	12 50
Making linen covers,	3 00
Christmas donations,	5 00
Christmas letters,	7 00
Balance in hands of Assistant Treasurer,	6 66
	$42 00

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

PHILADELPHIA, February 4th, 1887.

Rev. J. P. Hubbard.

MY DEAR SIR:—Herewith I give you report of Sunday-School for the year 1886.

Officers,	4
Teachers,	41
Scholars, Main school,	322
Scholars, Infant school,	150
Musicians,	4
Total,	521

Highest Attendance,	353
Lowest Attendance,	193
Average Attendance,	310

These figures show a small increase on those of last year, but do not convey the high standard to which the school is attaining in orderly conduct, punctual and regular attendance, and study of the lessons.

We have an able corps of active and energetic teachers whose hearts seem to be in their work. Willing hands have come forward at once to fill each vacancy occurring, and substitutes are constantly offering. Three new classes have been formed, and arrangements are being made to form additional ones.

Our library has been carefully examined and the books revised and rebound.

The librarian and his assistants have labored earnestly to fill their onerous position to the satisfaction of all; and how well they have succeeded can be attested by the whole school. A new tenor singer has been secured to lead the singing, and our music is being rapidly improved, although it has always been considered of a high grade.

I would make one remark in reference to the necessity for the regular attendance of the teachers, to strengthen the school and assist in maintaining and increasing its numbers. If a teacher is absent in long periods and no regular provision made for the class, the scholars lose their interest, complaints come from parents, the attendance of the class falls off, and the scholars are withdrawn to be sent to other schools.

We thank all those who help us; but where it is inconvenient to attend regularly, more valuable assistance could be rendered by acting as substitutes.

As large as our school is, we have room for more, more

teachers, more substitutes, more scholars; and hope that many will join with us in advancing the interest and usefulness of the school, and trust that the coming year may add increased numbers to our ranks.

Very Respectfully,

D. C. WALSH,
Secretary.

Report of the Treasurer of the Sunday-School.

Receipts.

Easter collection,		$59 09
Collection by "Barrels,"		38 07
Ordinary collections,		418 89
Entertainment,		42 90
Sundry resources,		23 50
		$582 45
Balance from 1885,		154 48
		$736 93

Expenditures.

Diocesan Board of Missions,	$20 00	
Rev. J. E. Deal, Misssionary,	15 00	
Home for the Homeless,	10 00	
Kindergarten, Twelfth and Wood streets,	10 00	
Pennsylvania Diocesan Commission for Church work among deaf mutes,	14 09	
Total to missions,		$69 09
Church for reduction of debt,		38 07
" " new heater for parish building,		125 00
General expenses,		454 13
		$686 29
Balance to 1887,		50 64
		$736 93

To the report of the Secretary I would simply add my thanks and congratulations to the officers and teachers of the Sunday-school for their efficient and successful labors. The moral and religious tone of the school has very much and constantly advanced. I want to see the Sunday-school filling up the church with earnest working members, and adding by their zeal and co-operation to the effectiveness of our public services. Will not the teachers and scholars aid me in securing this result?

REPORT OF THE ST. MATTHEW'S YEARLY BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 1886. ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

From dues,	$3,028 00	
" fines and incidentals,	93 20	
" assessments,	679 25	
		$3,800 45
" reserve fund from 1885,		122 08
Total receipts,		$3,922 53

EXPENDITURES.

General fund, sick benefits, &c.,	$2,052 47	
Funeral fund,	525 00	
Special fund,	130 82	
Total expenses,		2,708 29
Leaving a net balance of,		1,214 24
Due special fund,		172 91
Leaving applicable to dividend,		$1,041 33

Or 46 per cent. on dues paid in 1886.

Number of members on roll at last report,	393	
" " elected during the year,	32	
		425
" " deceased " " "	3	
" " dropped " " "	33	
		36
Total number in good standing beginning of 1887,		387

The widows of the three members who died during the year received $150 each.

One of the members lost his wife, and the funeral benefit of $75 was paid him.

There was sold during the year through the Coal Club, 506½ tons of coal at a cost of $2443.49, making a saving of over $300 to members of the Club.

Very respectfully,

JOHN JAY GILROY,

Recording Secretary.

These bare statistics tell little of the amount of benefit conferred and received through this Association. Figures can convey no idea of help coming to the sick and afflicted at the time of their great need. If workingmen combined more in such mutually helpful associations they could not go amiss; as perhaps they may in more aggressive and political associations. I would call attention to the remarkably small running expenses of this Association. It is less than three per cent., whereas most charitable associations cost from seven to twenty-five per cent. and even more for running expenses. And even this small cost is more than met by the amount saved by the members in their purchases of coal.

During the year 13 were baptized—adults 5, infants 8.

Confirmed, 18. Communicants, 355. Marriages, 6. Burials, 17.

You will notice a great reduction of the list of communicants, from 477 as reported last year to 355 now reported.

The number of communicants is actually about the same, but I have struck off from the list many names to make it correspond more nearly with the number actually communing.

Death has been busy in our midst. Long-familiar forms and faces are lost to our view. We sadly miss them from our homes, and from their wonted places in the social and public worship of the church. We especially miss the venerated form of Elam F. Witmer, long a communicant and vestryman of the church. Some in old age, some in their early youth and loveliness have been taken. Their places are vacant here, but the home above is constantly filling up. Loved ones there are waiting our coming; a few more years, or, it may be, days of separation, and we shall be with them, where

> "Perfect love and friendship reign
> Throughout eternity."

At work for Jesus, death is only the messenger to summon us also home.

The time in which we may thus work for Him is constantly growing less. Let us then be up and doing while the day lasts, knowing that the night cometh when no man can work.

Your affectionate friend and Pastor,

JOHN P. HUBBARD.

FEBRUARY 5th, 1887.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

Bequests of money or real estate should be made *to the Rector, Church Wardens, and Vestrymen of St. Matthew's Church, Francisville, City of Philadelphia.*

Then it may be stated, *in trust for the purchase or erection of a Rectory, or for an Endowment Fund, the interest of which is to be applied to the payment of the Current Expenses of said Church.*

ANNUAL STATEMENT

TO THE

PARISHIONERS

OF

St. Matthew's Church,

FRANCISVILLE,

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

FOR THE YEAR 1887.

PHILADELPHIA:
ALLEN, LANE & SCOTT'S PRINTING HOUSE,
Nos. 229-231-233 South Fifth Street.
1888.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners.

The receipts and expenditures of St. Matthew's Church for the year 1887 have been as follows:—

Receipts for Year 1887.

Pew rents	$2,701 88
Parish Aid	542 55
Collections for Current Expenses	495 60
Collections for Missions	284 83
Collections for Sinking Fund	255 62
Collections for Convention Fund	104 16
Donations for Sinking Fund	1,485 09
Scheme for Sinking Fund	250 00
Communion collections	198 97
Young People's Association	162 86
Sunday-School	592 98
Ladies' Guild	143 08
Strawberry Festival	92 80
Entertainment	35 05
Donations	342 00
Sundry sources	80 20
Total receipts	$7,767 67
Loans	450 00

Balances, January 1st, 1887.

Young People's Association		$369 82	
Sunday-School		50 64	
Ladies' Guild		6 66	
Sinking Fund		43 52	
Organ Fund		233 86	
Convention Fund		43 76	
		$748 26	
Due Current Fund	$35 59		
" Communion Fund	16 90		
		52 49	
			695 77
			$8,913 44

Expenditures for Year 1887.

Salaries	$3,370 95
Interest on mortgage	323 68
Gas, coal, and water	398 88
Insurance	33 90
Repairs	179 00
Sundries	387 05
Paid on mortgage	2,600 00
Expense of Mission, &c.	100 00
Sunday-school	307 42
Young People's Association	70 63
Ladies' Guild	62 75
	$7,834 26

Missions and Charities.

Foreign Missions	$31 80	
Indians and Freedmen	37 44	
Jews	14 90	
Sundry Charities, Sunday-school	19 55	
Sheltering Arms, Sunday-school	37 20	
N. W. Convocation	75 93	
Evangelical Educational Society	19 39	
Petersburg School for colored people	25 00	
Protestant Episcopal Hospital	59 73	
Disabled Clergymen	43 35	
Communion alms	147 78	
Ladies' Guild Charities	70 73	
Convention Fund	140 00	
		722 80

Balances, January 1st, 1887.

Organ Fund	$233 86
Sinking Fund	25 98
Convention Fund	39 12
Communion Fund	7 05
Sunday-school	21 70

Young People's Association		$28 05	
Ladies' Guild		16 26	
		$372 02	
Due Current Fund		15 66	
			$356 38
			$8,913 44

Indebtedness, January 1st, 1888.

Salaries for three months			$762 50
Coal bill			110 00
Convention Fund			93 50
Loan			450 00
Accrued interest			55 00
			$1,471 00
Pew rents due	$272 00		
Pew rents supposed good		$110 00	
Balances, January 1st, 1888		356 36	
			466 36
			$1,004 64
Mortgage on church			5,300 00
Total indebtedness, January 1st, 1888			$6,304 64
Total indebtedness, January 1st, 1887			8,120 82
Total gain for 1887			$1,816 18

Floating Debt.

Shortage, January 1st, 1888	$1,337 54
Shortage, January 1st, 1887	816 42
Increase of floating debt during year 1887	$521 12

Our funded debt was decreased during the year $2600. In the past two years it was decreased $6000. In addition to this, $400 were paid for permanent insurance; making total gain of $6400. The saving of interest by this has been $300, and the saving of insurance $64; making the total annual saving $364.

In accomplishing this result we have been largely assisted by brethren of other churches. To these generous friends we once more tender our most grateful thanks. I cannot express to them, how much their sympathy and aid have encouraged and helped me, in my arduous undertaking to free this church from debt. The Lord reward them and bless them!

But whilst we have thus so largely reduced our funded debt, we have allowed the floating debt to increase.

Our pew rents have fallen off, and also our receipts from the Parish Aid Society.

The falling off in pew rents is owing to the removal from our parish of several well-to-do families; whilst some, perhaps equally able, have taken the place of these, most of the accessions have been of families in more humble circumstances. Some who have still continued their connection with the parish, and their attendance at church, have ceased to pay pew rents. Our congregation is by no means a rich one. But perhaps more might be done in the way of renting pews or sittings than is now done. I do not like this system of pew renting. I have been Rector of two free churches where the free pew system worked admirably. In one church, where this system was adopted at my urgent request, our receipts for current expenses were considerably increased without any interference with our missionary collections, which were very large. All current expenses were met by subscriptions.

I would be very glad to have St. Matthew's Church adopt the free pew system; but, so long as our current receipts depend so largely on pew rentals, I would urge all who can do so to rent pews or sittings. You will be more likely to be regular in your attendance when you have your own pew or sitting.

In a city there are always those who have been aptly called "religious tramps," persons who go about from church to church, getting the benefit of the services, whilst they do little or nothing for the support of public worship. This is not always done of deliberate purpose; but in removing from one part of the city to another people fall into this habit. They delay making any new church attachments, saying in excuse they have not yet determined where to go; and so months, and even years, pass by, and perhaps they gradually cease any regular attendance at church. There are multitudes in this city who have thus altogether given up attendance at church, or who wander about without connecting themselves with any church. You should beware of this. Every Christian, for his own sake, needs to connect himself with some church, and make that church his home and his field of Christian labor. And every Christian also should be doing his part to support public worship.

I would call attention also to our Parish Aid Society. This is a method to raise a large amount from the whole congregation, by asking a little from each individual, thus distributing among many, what would be a heavy burden to the few.

We invite our people to take one or more shares, as they are able and feel inclined to do so. Each share pledges the person taking it to contribute ten cents weekly, to be called for every month by one of the Parish Aid Collectors.

This has the advantage also of being a system of parish visiting. I know of several instances where the visit of the collector is eagerly looked forward to.

There are very few, if any, of our people, and especially of our communicants, who cannot afford to take one of these shares. If all will unite in this, we can raise at least $1000 yearly without any one feeling the burden.

And now as to the duty of giving for the Lord's service. Are you doing this systematically, conscientiously, prayerfully? Have you ever studied your duty in this respect in the light of Bible example and Bible teaching? Have you studied the system of tithes and offerings under which the Jews gave, somewhere from one-tenth to one-third of their entire income? And then have you, with this before you, studied how much you, as a blood-bought disciple of Jesus Christ, ought to give?

There can be no question but what Christians in general are terribly lax in this respect. They are spending in self-indulgence what ought to be spent for the extension of Christ's Kingdom, and the doing good to the bodies and souls of men. There will be a fearful reckoning for this at the Judgment Day. But, without looking at others, are *you* doing *your duty* in this respect? Are *you* making to yourself friends of the mammon of unrighteousness? Are *you* laying up *your treasure* in Heaven?

Think how much there is to be done! There are the poor, the sick, the suffering to be helped; the ignorant to be instructed; the glad news of salvation for sinners to be published throughout the world. There is enough to keep every Christian busy to the uttermost. Our Divine Master's example is before us for our imitation. See how earnestly and continuously he worked. He said of Himself, "I must do the work of Him that sent me while it is

day, for the night cometh when no man can work." He bids us to take up our cross of daily self-denial and follow Him, saying to us, "It is enough for the disciple to be as his Master, and the servant as his Lord." He wants us to be "zealous of good work." "Freely ye have received, freely give," is another word to us.

Regular attendance upon our services is another means for the growth and prosperity of our church. I have been pleased to notice the increasing attendance at our night services. It has more than doubled since I came here. The responses are more audibly and heartily united in. Our ushers have been on hand to extend to strangers the hospitality of our church. But there are still many empty seats to be filled, whilst outside there are multitudes of needy souls to be gathered in. May the Lord increase our concern for these souls, and send us forth to seek and save them, to compel them to come in, that His house may be filled! Oh, for more intense earnestness, for more of His own spirit of love and compassion for perishing souls! Brethren, we need our hearts to be aflame with His love, and with zeal for His service. We need to come together in this spirit, to stir up one another to greater diligence in all good works. The spirit of Christ within us will give added life and power to all our services, and will draw others to unite with us. Nothing is so attractive to others as a church thoroughly alive, and earnest, and active, full of love for Christ, and love for men. The Lord pour out upon us this spirit!

I have been greatly cheered and encouraged by the awakened zeal and earnestness of some of our young people, evidenced by the commencement, by themselves, of a Young Men's Guild, and also a society of Christian Endeavor, an association for mutual helpfulness in the Divine

life. These societies have been only recently commenced. They promise, by the blessing of God, great usefulness in the future. I would say to the dear young friends who have joined these societies, that they must not expect too much to begin with; they must be prepared for discouragements; but patient continuance in well-doing will bring its rich reward at last. You will have your pastor's sympathy; and, above all, you will have the presence and blessing of Christ. His "well done" will compensate for all.

The Young People's Association are still earnestly and actively at work. This association furnishes healthful recreation to our young people. It binds them together in a very pleasant, social way. We owe much to them also for their very efficient aid in helping to reduce our funded debt. We have received from them, for this purpose, during the last year, $434. They promise us their help this current year to aid in paying off our floating debt. They are preparing for a sale this spring with this object in view.

I subjoin the very modest report of their zealous and indefatigable president, and also the report of the treasurer.

Report of the President of the Young People's Association.

The Young People's Association has finished another successful year. All who attend its meetings, with but few exceptions, have the work at heart, and enter pleasantly and vigorously into the plans suggested to them. During the past year they have held but one large entertainment, which proved very successful. A small entertainment marked the closing of the year, the returns

being placed in the treasury to forward future plans. The present prospects of the association are bright and promising, and there is every reason to expect the further success of its undertakings.

Report of Treasurer of the Young People's Association.

1887. Receipts.

Jan. 1.	To balances, cash on hand	$35 82	
	" " on hand account church debt	334 00	
			$369 82
	" membership dues		22 98
	" receipts from entertainments, $119.28, $20.60		139 88
			$532 68

Expenditures.

By amount paid D. C. Walsh, account church debt	$334 00		
By amount paid D. C. Walsh, account church debt	100 00		
		$434 00	
By amount running expenses	$48 65		
" " expenses entertainment	21 98		
		70 63	
" cash balance in treasury		28 05	
			$532 68

JAMES H. M. HAYES,
Treasurer.

The Ladies' Guild is still doing very good work, but it does not call out such general sympathy and co-operation on the part of the ladies of our Parish, as I could desire. I would urge the claims of this society upon their prayerful consideration. I know that most of our ladies are very

busy with home duties; but can you not also, dear friends, spare a little time for your Master's service, in the work of His Church? Ought not our church to be in every way a working church? Will you not do your part to make it such?

Report of the President of the Ladies' Guild.

The Ladies' Guild has been at work in a quiet way throughout the past year, and the new year opens with promise of increasing efficiency. What has been done in the way of charities will be shown by the Treasurer's report. In addition to this, a box of clothing, valued at $35, was sent to a destitute colored family at Clear Spring, Maryland, in answer to an appeal from the Rector of the church in that place.

In connection with the Evangelistic work carried on by the united churches of the city last January, a large number of house to house visits was made in the district assigned to St. Matthew's Church. The Committee on Visiting has also made many parish visits to the poor and sick.

Report of the Treasurer of the Ladies' Guild.

Receipts.

From dues	$25 10
" sales	15
" subscriptions	101 00
" donations	16 83
Total receipts for 1887	143 08
Balance on hand January 1st, 1887	6 66
	$149 74

Expenditures.

Materials for work	$31 73
Surplice	8 75
Easter decorations	40 00
Laundry work	14 00
Rent paid for widow	3 75
Groceries sent to Mrs. Brent	5 20
Clothing for Home for Consumptives, Chestnut Hill	6 35
Knives and forks for Home for Consumptives, Chestnut Hill	1 35
Barrel of apples for Home for Consumptives, Chestnut Hill	3 50
Freight	1 35
Amount contributed for colored family at Hagerstown	5 00
Christmas donation	5 00
Christmas letters for hospitals	7 50
Balance in hand of Treasurer, January 1st, 1888	16 26
	$149 74

Report of the Secretary of the Sunday-School.

Officers	4
Teachers, male	10
" female	30
Scholars, Main School, male	135
" " " female	160
" Infant School, male	75
" " " female	80
Musicians	4
Librarians	3
	501

Highest attendance during year	346
Lowest " " "	204
Average " " "	291
Number of sessions	42

Three new teachers have offered their services for the coming year, and two new classes are to be formed January 1st.

Our school has been very prosperous during the past year, both teachers and scholars seeming to be united in their efforts to help in the great work in which we are all engaged. The average attendance is very large, a few less than 300, and on several occasions there was an attend- of over 100 in the infant school, which indicates the love the children have for the school.

The librarians, musicians, and assistants at the bookcase have all been punctual in attendance and active in their services, which have materially helped in sustaining the high character of the schools.

The outlook for the coming year under the new Superintendent is very bright, and I hope our numbers may be largely increased, and our usefulness much greater than ever before.

D. C. WALSH,
Secretary.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF ST. MATTHEW'S P. E. CHURCH, FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1887.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand January 1st, 1887	$50 64
Regular collections	418 18
Easter offering	77 30
Christmas offering	37 20
Sundry sources	60 30
	$643 62

EXPENDITURES.

Current expenses		$307 42
Music leader		100 00
Missions:—		
"House for Crippled Children"	$6 85	
Deaf Mute Mission	10 70	
"Country Week" Mission	2 00	
Sheltering Arms	37 20	
		56 75
Church, for Sinking Fund		157 75
Balance on hand December 31st, 1887		21 70
		$643 62

RUSSELL S. HUBBARD,
Treasurer.

We have secured the services of Mr. Benjamin Johnson as Superintendent, who has already had considerable experience in this work. Under his energetic leadership we hope, with the blessing of God, for still greater prosperity for our school in the future.

I would take this opportunity to express my own sense of great obligation, and also that of the Teachers' Association, to our Secretary, for his very efficient and valuable services. For twelve years, he has been giving his whole heart, and his untiring efforts, to promote the welfare of our school; and, especially of late, he has taken a load of responsibility from me, and has been virtually acting as Superintendent of the school. This, in addition to his duties as Accounting Warden, was very onerous; but, at my earnest solicitation, he consented to continue the performance of these double duties, until the services of a Superintendent should be secured.

What I said last year I can repeat with added emphasis this year, "The moral and religious tone of the school has very much and constantly advanced." The Bishop noticed and spoke of this in his address to the Sunday-school, Christmas afternoon; and he justly commended the teachers and officers of the school for their training of the scholars. The Lord abundantly bless and prosper you, dear friends, in this labor of love! The Lord teach you that you may teach others! May the truth come from your hearts as a living truth, and so become a life-giving truth to the scholars! And may you at last receive the commendation of "the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls!"

I have no report from St. Matthew's Yearly Beneficial Association. But this Association still continues its prosperity and efficiency. The number of its members being limited to four hundred, it does not vary much from this. Were it not for this limit, it could easily have attained to a membership of one thousand; or it could have organized new chapters of four hundred members each. The good work originated by this Association, however, has extended itself through associations connected with other churches; and thus the same result has been secured. The funeral benefits have been fewer this year than usual, so that the return payments to the members will be proportionably larger.

Baptisms for the year: Adult, 8; infant, 22; total, 30. Confirmed, 16. Communicants, 401. Marriages, 13. Burials, 13.

Thus closes our record for the year, a mere brief and imperfect summary. God's record includes all we have thought and said and done, all that we have left undone. It is a record which includes all our doings, and all our

opportunities for doing; all our time and talents and means, and what we have done with our time and talents and means; whether we have used these for self, or whether we have used these for Christ. My brethren, what is your individual record in God's Book?

Death has again been teaching us the short and uncertain tenure by which we hold our dearest loved ones. The year has closed very sadly to some. Homes which gave promise of long-continued domestic happiness have been invaded by death, and the bereft ones can only bow in submission to their Heavenly Father, trusting His wisdom and love in the midst of the darkness and desolation now surrounding them. It is a severe but a blessed lesson, to learn to realize His presence with us in the darkness, and to experience the consolations of His sympathy and love.

The young and the old have been taken from us. I have watched the slow ebbing away of life through consumption, and through still more painful and consuming disease. On some the blow has fallen suddenly and almost without warning.

It was a great privilege to be with our dear aged brother Thomas Ralston, as his feet were treading the valley of the Shadow of Death; and so almost to witness his entrance into the heavenly world. He was a good man. He loved his Bible. It was his one book. I scarce ever visited him but I found him with the Bible open before him. The church lost in him a liberal helper, and his pastor a sympathizing and praying friend and brother.

Early in November last our oldest communicant, Mrs. Alexander, widow of the Rev. William Alexander, a clergyman of our church, peacefully ended her long life, in the eighty-ninth year of her age. It was a privilege to

visit this aged saint, and receive her glad welcome as a minister of Christ. She always delighted in the voice of prayer, up to the last audibly uniting in the Lord's Prayer. In her courtliness of manner she belonged to a generation which is fast passing away.

In my last annual statement, when I spoke of the loss of our venerated brother, Elam F. Witmer, little did I think how soon his daughter would follow him. Until her marriage, she was one of our most earnest and successful Sunday-school teachers. Lovely in her life, she was lovely in her death. Trust in Jesus kept her soul in perfect peace. Her solicitude was only for the loved ones she was leaving, that they too might know, and love, and serve her Saviour.

Christ has been glorified by the meek and patient endurance of suffering, and the steadfast faith and trust of these, His sick and dying people. We love to think of them as entered into rest, their suffering over, their tears wiped away, rejoicing amid the fullness of joy, which abounds evermore in God's presence.

So our loved ones are leaving us, and soon we shall follow. We are passing away, passing onward to the eternal world. But if death finds us waiting for our Lord, faithfully at work in His service, death will be only the welcome messenger summoning us also home.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Your friend and Pastor,

JOHN P. HUBBARD.

JANUARY 12th, 1888.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

Bequests of money or real estate should be made *to the Rector, Church Wardens, and Vestrymen of St. Matthew's Church, Francisville, City of Philadelphia.*

Then it may be stated, *in trust for the purchase or erection of a Rectory, or for an Endowment Fund, the interest of which is to be applied to the payment of the Current Expenses of said Church.*

ANNUAL STATEMENT

TO THE

PARISHIONERS

OF

St. Matthew's Church,

FRANCISVILLE,

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

FOR THE YEAR 1888.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTING HOUSE OF ALLEN, LANE & SCOTT,
Nos. 229-231-233 South Fifth Street.
1889.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners:

The receipts and expenditures of St. Matthew's Church for the year 1888 have been as follows:—

Receipts for Year 1888.

Pew-rents	$2,771 94
Parish Aid Society	443 75
Collections for Current Expenses	723 20
Collections for Missions	523 39
For Sinking Fund	74 02
Donations	345 00
For Improvement of Infant Class Room	102 88
Sundry Receipts	37 39
Donations for Missions and Charities	473 68
Communion collections	236 43
Young People's Association	1,267 59
Sunday-school	893 78
Ladies' Guild	144 10
	$8,037 15

Balances, January 1st, 1888.

Accounting Warden	$320 50	
Communion Fund	7 05	
Sunday-school	21 70	
Young People's Association	28 05	
Ladies' Guild	16 26	
		393 56
		$8,430 71

Expenditures for Year 1888.

Salaries	$3,551 70
Interest on mortgage	262 80
Gas, coal, and water	378 20
Insurance	33 90
Repairs	162 86
Improvement of Infant Class Room	189 51
Payment of loan	450 00
Reduction of mortgage	100 00
Sundries	395 87
Sunday school expenses	357 89
Young People's Association	572 60
	$6,455 33

Missions and Charities.

Foreign Missions	$43 47	
McCall Mission	60 75	
American Church Missionary Society	53 36	
Evangelical Education Society	33 72	
Northwest Convocation	106 12	
City Missions	15 04	
Jews	272 02	
Freedmen	25 53	
Episcopal Hospital	81 25	
Fund for Disabled Clergymen	36 00	
Convention Fund	93 64	
Sundry Missions	27 00	
Communion alms	227 56	
Mrs. Friedlander	116 70	
Ladies' Guild, Sundry Missions, &c.	72 11	
Sheltering Arms	38 20	
Deaf Mutes	14 00	
Country Week	13 00	
Home for Crippled Children	15 49	
Church of the Crucifixion	15 00	
		1,359 96

Balances, January 1st, 1889.

Accounting Warden	$279 04	
Sunday-school	77 97	
Committee on Improvement of Sunday-school Room	231 50	
Ladies' Guild	2 25	
Communion Fund	1 62	
Young People's Association	23 04	
		$615 42
		$8,430 71

Indebtedness, January 1st, 1889.

Salaries for three months		$762 50
Coal bills		220 00
Convention Fund		96 79
Accrued interest		51 00
Small bills		70 00
		$1200 29
Pew-rents, supposed good	$100 00	
Balances, January 1st, 1889	615 42	
		715 42
		$484 87
Mortgage on church		5,200 00
Total indebtedness, January 1st, 1889		$5,684 87
Total indebtedness, January 1st, 1888		6,304 62
Total gain for 1888		$619 75

Floating Debt.

Shortage, January 1st, 1889	$1,054 82
Shortage, January 1st, 1888	1,337 54
Reduction of floating debt	$282 72

These figures compare very favorably with those of the preceding year, thus:—

Pew-rents for 1887	$2,701 88
Parish Aid Society, 1887	542 55
Collections for current expenses, 1887	495 60
	$3,740 03
Pew rents, 1888	$2,771 94
Parish Aid Society, 1888	443 75
Collections for current expenses, 1888	723 20
	$3,938 89
Increase for 1888	$198 86
Missions and charities, 1887	$722 80
Missions and charities, 1888	1,359 96
Increase for 1888	$637 16
Communion collections, 1887	$198 97
Communion collections, 1888	236 43
Increase for 1888	$37 46
Young People's Association, 1887	$162 86
Young People's Association, 1888	1,267 59
Increase for 1888	$1,104 73
Sunday-school, 1887	$592 98
Sunday-school, 1888	893 78
Increase for 1888	$300 80

These comparisons are very encouraging, and especially so in reference to the large increase of amount given for missions and charities. This is one of the best tests of the real prosperity of a church—what it is doing for others rather than what it is doing for itself; what it is doing to extend the kingdom of Christ, and to make known his gospel to all men. To be living for and doing good to others, to be seeking and saving the lost, is the very spirit of Christ, without which the seeming prosperity of a church is but an empty show. May the Lord increase in us this spirit, and make us to abound in all good works!

I am glad to call attention to the considerable increase in the collections for current expenses. This evidences, I think, an increasing realization of the Christian duty of giving, and of making our gifts a part of our religious worship. And I am inclined to think that our reverent way of presenting our offerings to Almighty God, in accordance with the spirit of the rubric, also tends to deepen this sense of Christian obligation.

Last year I urged upon you the duty of setting apart at least one-tenth of your incomes for religious objects. I am sure that those of you who do this realize the blessing which attends it. Your own experience proves to you that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." You find that in giving you are in every way enriched, that the Lord amply returns to you what you paid out for Him.

But I fear that many are neglecting this duty, and losing the attendant blessing, besides forfeiting for themselves the Lord's approving word, "Well done, good and faithful servant." I pray you, brethren, bear in mind that you are only stewards, and as such will be called to strict account for your use of the means entrusted you. You should give, as God's stewards, in view of your account-

ability to him, religiously, prayerfully, systematically, determining beforehand the amount for each collection; when absent at the time of the collection, sending in the amount thus determined on; and, as the Lord prospers you, adding to your grateful offerings.

I am sorry to have to call attention once more to the falling off of the receipts of the Parish Aid Society. This Society, organized by your former Rector, is, in my opinion, wisely and admirably adapted to the purpose had in view in its formation—the calling in the aid of all the members of the Parish to help meet the current expenses of the church, through small weekly contributions.

We need the aid this Society is designed to give. We cannot meet our current expenses without its aid, unless something more efficient can be devised in its stead. This way is as simple and as little burdensome as possible, and to my knowledge is very acceptable to many of the contributors. They look forward with pleasure to the visits of the collectors, and sometimes complain to me of missing them when not punctually made. These visits also serve a very useful purpose in bringing to the knowledge of the Rector cases of sickness, or of other need.

I ask you then, brethren, for your sympathy and aid in this work, by your kindly welcoming the visits of the collectors and your willing contributions. If all will give their aid the receipts of the Society will be easily doubled. To the collectors and officers of the Society we owe our cordial thanks for their patient and persistent performance of their sometimes arduous duties.

The Young People's Association have done nobly. They have rendered very efficient aid towards reducing the floating debt of the church, and have also bought for themselves a piano, which is very needful for their social

entertainments. The report of the President shows how they have entered upon the work for this year with unabated zeal and hopefulness. God bless these dear young people, and prosper them in all their undertakings!

The Ladies' Guild also deserves our hearty commendation. With few in number, and amid many discouragements, they have worked earnestly, persistently, and very successfully. They have done most excellent service at our hospitals and charitable institutions by their sympathy and gifts. They have contributed boxes of clothing, &c., besides moneyed gifts. Besides this they have cared for the church vestments, supplying new ones as needed. This Society deserves and should have the hearty support and sympathy of our people. It is my earnest desire and request that all the ladies of the congregation, not connected with the Young People's Association, shall enroll themselves as members of this Association, giving their presence when they can, and when not present, giving their sympathy and substantial aid. This is a church organization for carrying on the work of the Redeemer's kingdom. Every Christian church should thus organize itself for combined aggressive work, thus making itself a working church, and not merely a society meeting together for Christian worship. Like the Master, its people should be going about doing good, seeking and saving the lost, glorifying their Father in Heaven by their abundant good works.

Report of the President of the Young People's Association.

The year closed very encouragingly for the Young People's Association. The success with which it began its career still marks all its undertakings. It has been of

good service both by financial aid given the church, and by the pleasant spirit created among the young people who have been its supporters. Upon every occasion where special effort was necessary, a cheerful acquiescence has been met with from all, and a general interest is taken in the ordinary routine of the Association. The meetings toward the close of the year were especially cheering, through increased attendance, and through the diffusion of a more social feeling; then, too, they have been very profitable and pleasant.

The young people feel very grateful for the sympathy and encouragement they have always received from the members of the congregation, and particularly from the ladies of the Guild. The present outlook is very promising, and as the year rolls on we hope that it will bring with it success, and that the Association will continue a working organization.

Financial Report of St. Matthew's Young People's Association.

1888. Receipts.

Jan.	1.	Cash balance on hand		$28 05
May	1.	Proceeds "Feast of Days"	$982 76	
"	8.	" Private Sale	72 88	
Nov.	19.	" Old Folks Concert	78 50	
Dec.	14.	" Fruit Sociable	20 70	
"	17.	Donations account Piano, $30, $25	55 00	
"	31.	Collection-books account Piano Fund	44 75	
"	31.	Membership dues	13 00	
				1,267 59
				$1,295 64

1888. Expenditures.

May	1.	Expenses "Feast of Days"	$229 14	
"	15.	Cash paid D. C. Walsh, account Floating Debt	700 00	
Nov.	19.	Expenses Old Folks Concert	18 50	
Dec.	31.	Amount running expenses, including purchase of "Decker" square piano	324 96	
"	31.	Cash balance in hands Treasurer	23 04	
				$1,295 64

JAMES H. M. HAYES,
Treasurer.

Philadelphia, January 9th, 1889.

Report of the Ladies' Guild for the Year 1888.

Through the past year the members of the Guild have made and donated to the Home for Consumptives at Chestnut Hill ten pairs of sheets and four dozen pillow-cases; to the Sheltering Arms two dozen sheets, one dozen pillow-cases, one dozen nurses' caps, and thirty-three garments; to a destitute family twenty-six garments, nine sheets, a dozen pillow-cases, a pair of blankets, and two quilts. Twenty-one garments contributed by the congregation were donated to the Home for Consumptives, 411 Spruce Street.

The ladies of the Guild contributed a large number of useful and fancy articles to the Feast of Days, held in the spring by the Young People's Association. The sum of fifteen dollars and a half, given through the Guild for the expenses of the Feast of Days, was also paid to the Young People's Association. The members of the latter Association donated to a suburban church, through the Guild, a box of articles left from the sale, valued at twenty dollars. At Christmas two barrels of apples and a box of oranges were sent to the patients of the Episcopal Hospital.

For the first time since the organization of the Guild one of our number has been called to her heavenly home. In Miss Turner the Guild has lost an active and faithful member. She passed away on the 20th of April after a short illness, having attended the meeting held but two weeks before. Her cheerful presence is greatly missed, as well as her efficient aid and warm interest in all of the work undertaken.

"Rise, said the Master; come unto the feast.
She quickly rose with willing feet;
But thinking it not otherwise than meet
For such a bidding to put on her best.
She is gone from us for a few short hours
Into her bridal closet, there to wait
For the unfolding of the palace gate
Which gives her entrance to the blissful bowers."

Receipts of the Ladies' Guild.

From dues	$31 54
" donations	47 46
" subscriptions	65 10
Total receipts for 1888	$144 10
Balance January 1st, 1888	16 26
	$160 36

Expenditures.

Materials for work	$62 21
Freight	40
Paid to Young People's Association	15 50
Cleaning Infant School room	1 50
Easter decorations	33 00
Laundry work	14 00
Communion napkins	3 00
Christmas donation	5 00

Fruit for Episcopal Hospital	$9 50
For surplice	14 00
Balance in hands of Treasurer	2 25
	$160 36

Report of the Secretary of the Sunday-School.

Officers	3
Teachers, male	8
" female	27
Scholars, Main School, male	138
" " female	140
" Infant School, male	75
" " female	80
Musicians	3
Librarians	3
	477

The highest attendance during the year	374
Lowest attendance	370
Average attendance	309
Number of sessions	41

The teachers have been faithful to their duties, as have also the musicians and librarians. The scholars have been punctual and attentive to their teachers. Numerous changes have occurred owing to removals from the city. At the present time our numbers are slightly lower than at the same time last year, but with the earnest efforts of our energetic Superintendent and teachers, we hope to see a large increase in our numbers by Easter.

D. C. WALSH,
Secretary.

Report of the Treasurer of the Sunday-School.

Receipts.

Balance on hand January 1st, 1888		$21 70
From general collections	457 86	
" Easter collections	61 49	
" pennies	231 50	
" entertainment by Infant Class	86 63	
" strawberry festival	42 80	
" symphony	11 50	
" contributions	2 00	
		893 78
		$915 48

Expenditures.

General expenses		$357 89
Church, for tenor singer		100 00
Paid chairman of committee on improvements of Sunday-school		231 50
Paid Miss Clara Howe for improvement of Infant Class room		86 63
For Missions :—		
Deaf Mute Mission	$13 00	
Country Week	13 00	
Home for Crippled Children	15 49	
Church of the Crucifixion	15 00	
Colored School, Petersburg	5 00	
		61 49
		$837 51
Balance on hand January 1st, 1889		77 97
		$915 48

RUSSELL S. HUBBARD,
Treasurer.

These reports evidence the flourishing condition of our Sunday-school, and do great credit to the teachers and officers, as well as to the scholars.

These teachers and officers have, many of them, been giving their faithful and devoted services to the school through many years. The Lord, for whose sake they have labored so cheerfully and unweariedly, reward them with souls converted through their instrumentality, souls to be their crown of rejoicing in the day of Jesus' appearing.

Notwithstanding the large increase of his official duties, Mr. Walsh has continued his invaluable services as Secretary; and I trust that they will long be continued to the school. I hardly know what St. Matthew's Sunday-school would do without him. Mr. Benjamin Johnson has entered with great energy and zeal upon his duties as Superintendent, and has given a new impetus and life to things. Under his able leadership we look for increasing prosperity. The year opens before us bright with promise.

I beg to call the attention of the officers and scholars to a subject of very grave moment. The Sunday-school has been well called the nursery of the church. Such it always should be; it should be the channel through which the scholars should pass on to the church. This should be kept constantly in mind by the teachers; they should use their utmost influence to induce the scholars to become regular attendants upon the services of the church. Without this there is danger of all their work for the scholars coming to naught, and of their straying away from all religious influences when they leave the Sunday-school.

Neglect of church attendance is one of the growing and alarming evils of our times, and too often this begins through the want of parental influence and example. In excuse, parents sometimes say that they do not like to

compel their children to attend church. Do they argue in the same way about attendance at the day-school? Do they leave this to the mere whims of their children? Do they suppose when the habit of staying away from church is fixed in childhood that this habit will easily be overcome in later life, with all worldly influences against them? Church-going should become the habit of life, formed in earliest childhood under the loving influence and example of parents, so that the question of going or not going should never be raised. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it," is not only a divine precept, but it is good common sense.

This matter has been brought up in the Vestry and there seriously discussed. A resolution was passed calling the attention of the teachers and officers of the school to the too great separation between the school and the church, and asking them to use their utmost efforts to bring the Sunday-school children into the church.

This whole subject deserves your most serious and prayerful consideration.

With the help of the church, the Sunday-school has undertaken the improvement of the Sunday-school room. The walls are to be painted in oil, and an inside ceiling of wood is to be put in to give greater warmth in winter, and coolness in summer, and also to aid the acoustics, all of which we hope will be a great improvement. The whole cost of this will be about $1150, towards which the committee have $231.50 in hand, and $650 pledged by the officers and scholars of the school, and $110 pledged by members of the congregation. In all $991.50; leaving a deficit to be raised of about $160. The committee will be glad to receive pledges or gifts to meet this deficit.

The Infant Class room was painted and otherwise greatly improved during the summer, at an expense of $189.51; $86.63 were the proceeds of an entertainment given by the Infant Class, and $102.88 were raised by Miss Clara Howe, one of the teachers of the Infant Class, to whose efforts and superintendence of the improvements we are greatly indebted.

THE YOUNG MEN'S GUILD OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

has been doing good work this past year. They have held meetings every other week, with very fair attendance. They have instituted a series of Bible studies among the members. Under their auspices two lectures have been delivered, a very able and instructive one by the Hon. Wm. N. Ashman, on "Fiction and its Uses," and one by Maj. Moses Veale, on "Personal Reminiscences of the War." I was prevented attending this lecture through sickness, but it was highly enjoyed by those who heard it. A third lecture will be given by Charles F. Warwick, Esq. These were free lectures, but the admission was by ticket. The Guild, through their Committees on Hospitality and Church Work and Visiting, have rendered valuable aid to the Rector. We look for much larger usefulness from this Guild in the future. Among other things we look for the establishing of a reading-room.

To Mr. Burt McCarthy we are chiefly indebted for the inauguration and successful working of this Guild.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF ST. MATTHEW'S YEARLY BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION, FOR THE YEAR 1888.

RECEIPTS.

From dues	$3,075 70	
" fines and incidentals	52 90	
" assessments	499 25	
		$3,627 85
" reserve fund from 1887		211 88
Total receipts		$3,839 73

EXPENDITURES.

General fund, sick benefits, &c	$2,399 72	
Funeral fund, benefits	375 00	
Special fund	139 75	
		2,914 47
Leaving a balance of		$925 26
Amount due special fund for 1889		120 15
" applicable to dividend (approximated)		$805 11

Number of members on roll at last report	396	
" " elected during the year	17	
		413
" " dropped during the year		14
Total number of members in good standing beginning of 1889		399

The wives of five members died during the year, and the funeral benefit of $75 was paid in each case.

The Association, since its organization thirteen years ago, has paid out for sick benefits $10,980.24; funeral benefits, $4486; and returned to its members in dividends, $8001.31. Dividend for 1888 approximated.

JOHN JAY GILROY,
Recording Secretary.

Baptisms for the year: adult, 4; infant, 20: total, 24. Confirmed, 15. Communicants, 427. Marriages, 10. Burials, 14.

Thus closes my Eighth Annual Statement. These eight years have been full of changes. Many have removed from the parish. Many have left us for the eternal world. Others have come in to take their places. The church is like a river; we stand upon its banks and look out upon its waters ever moving onwards as we look. The river remains the same, but its waters are constantly changing. But whither are these waters flowing? How many souls are being gathered into Christ's heavenly and eternal kingdom? This is the all-important question. And then, I ask, is this St. Matthew's Church more earnest, more active, more spiritual? Is it a shining light? Is its influence felt throughout all this neighborhood? My brethren, I am very far from satisfied as I look back upon our united work; nor am I more satisfied with our present spiritual condition; and is the Master satisfied? I took charge of the rectorship of this church under the pledge of its people to work with me.

But many of my appeals and efforts to make the church a more active working church have met with little response. This is a small matter so far as I, personally, am concerned. But it is the Master's name and glory; it is your our souls, and the reckoning you must make to Him; it is the souls of others for whom we are held responsible; that I am thinking of. I am thinking of what we might have done, as compared with the little which we have done. It is an infinitely high standard of privilege and obligation which is set before us, when Christ tells us that we are the salt of the earth, that we are the light of the world.

These rapidly passing years are hurrying us on to

Christ's judgment-seat. I long that we may give in our account with joy; I long that we may be found ever acceptable in His sight. May the Holy Spirit impress upon us these thoughts, and lead us to offer unitedly and with all our hearts the collect of last Sunday: "O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people who call upon thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

"O Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son, Christ our Lord; grant us grace so to follow thy blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys which thou hast prepared for those who unfeignedly love thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Your friend and pastor,

JNO. P. HUBBARD.

JANUARY 15th, 1889.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

Bequests of money or real estate should be made *to the Rector, Church Wardens, and Vestrymen of St. Matthew's Church, Francisville, City of Philadelphia.*

Then the object may be stated thus, *in trust for the purchase or erection of a Rectory:* or *for an Endowment Fund, the interest of which is to be applied to the payment of the Current Expenses of said Church.*

ANNUAL STATEMENT

TO THE

PARISHIONERS

OF

St. Matthew's Church,

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PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

FOR THE YEAR 1889.

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1890.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners:

The church receipts and expenditures for the year 1889 have been as follows:—

Receipts for 1889.

Pew-rents	$2,709 37
Parish Aid Society	699 90
Collections for Current Expenses	512 69
Donations	773 29
Collections for Missions	574 36
Easter Offering	130 52
Communion collections	242 75
Lenten collections	45 20
King's Daughters, Willing Ten	70 00
Sundry sources	33 10
Young People's Association	355 78
Ladies' Guild	118 26
Note on account of Improvement Fund	379 60
Sunday-school	1,089 86
	$7,734 68

Balances, January 1st, 1889.

Accounting Warden	$279 04	
Communion Fund	1 62	
Sunday-school	77 97	
Ladies' Guild	2 25	
Young People's Association	23 04	
Committee on Improvements	231 50	
		615 42
		$8,350 10

Expenditures for 1889.

Salaries	$3,170 53	
Interest on mortgage	260 00	
Gas, coal, and water	352 70	
Repairs	115 15	
Sundries	352 83	
Insurance	45 00	
Improvements	1,791 41	
Sunday-school expenses	218 63	
Young People's Association expenses	163 96	
Ladies' Guild expenses	57 90	
		$6,528 11

Missions and Charities.

American Church Missionary Society	$34 59	
American Church Missionary Foreign Missions	47 83	
American Church Missionary Domestic Missions	23 70	
McCall Mission, Paris	28 00	
Evangelical Alliance	17 97	
Washington Territory	10 00	
" " Bishop John A. Paddock	43 57	
Northwestern Convocation	56 25	
Disabled Clergymen, &c.	32 72	
Episcopal Hospital	94 50	
Home for Crippled Children	9 50	
" Colored "	30 00	
St. Christopher's Hospital	30 00	
Spring Hill Church, Nova Scotia	31 70	
Convention and Episcopal Fund	96 79	
Sundry Missions	80 04	
Johnstown Sufferers	171 78	
Poor	138 00	
		976 94
		$7,505 05

Balances, January 1st, 1890.

Accounting Warden		$256 05	
Sunday-school		90 01	
Communion		14 61	
Ladies' Guild		1 57	
Young People's Association		91 52	
Willing Ten		10 00	
Committee on Improvement	$231 50		
From Young People's Association	123 34		
From Sunday-school	21 45		
		376 29	
			845 05
			$8,350 10

Indebtedness, January 1st, 1890.

Accrued interest			$50 00
Salaries			1,002 09
Coal bill			210 00
Outstanding bills			200 00
			$1,462 09
Balances, January 1st, 1890		$845 05	
Less Improvement Fund due		376 29	
		$468 76	
Due current account by Improvement Fund		101 23	
Pew-rents, supposed good		80 00	
			649 99
			$812 10
Mortgage on church			5,200 00
			$6,012 10

Debts as above		$1,462 09
Pew-rents	$80 00	
Current account on hand	22 19	
Due from Improvement Fund	101 23	
		203 42
Shortage, January 1st, 1890		$1,258 67
Shortage, January 1st, 1889		1,054 82
Increase of floating debt		$203 85

A careful study of these figures, and comparison of them with those for 1888, is instructive :—

Current Receipts.	1888.	1889.
Pew-rents	$2,771 94	$2,709 37
Parish Aid Society	443 75	699 90
Collections for current expenses	723 20	512 69
	$3,938 89	$3,921 96

Current Expenses.	1888.	1889.
Salaries	$3,551 70	$3,170 53
Interest on mortgage	262 80	260 00
Gas, coal, and water	378 20	352 70
Insurance	33 90	45 00
Repairs	162 86	115 15
	$4,389 46	$3,943 38

The current receipts for 1889 were $16.82 less than in 1888, and the current expenses were $446.08 less, making a difference of $429.26 in favor of the year 1889; nevertheless, the floating indebtedness was increased $203.85, showing the diversion of other receipts to the Improvement Fund.

But, taking it altogether, this is by no means a bad financial showing; that we should have made such needed and valuable improvements at a cost of $1791.41, and yet have only added to our debt $203.85 is encouraging.

With these improvements completed and paid for, the energies of our people can now be directed to the reduction of our floating and mortgage indebtedness. There will be no more expense for insurance for the next five years, part of the insurance having been paid for that length of time, and the rest being perpetual. The other current expenses have also been considerably reduced; so that, with comparatively little effort, all the current expenses of the present year can be met, and at least a portion of our indebtedness paid off.

In this connection, I would once more call your attention to our Parish Aid Society. Some such agency as this is needed to raise the amount requisite to meet our current expenses. Dr. Kellogg, the Rector preceding me, had a peculiar gift for planning and organizing such agencies, and this Parish Aid Society was originated and set in motion by him. It would be difficult to devise anything better adapted to the end in view. It is simple and effective in operation, as all these years of its working have proved.

Most of you are familiar with its plan of operation, but for the information of others, I will briefly state it: A share in the Parish Aid Society means a subscription of ten cents weekly, in all $5.20 a year. The members of the congregation are solicited to subscribe for one or more of these shares; or, if unable to subscribe for a whole share, for one-half a share weekly. Collectors or visitors are appointed, who collect from the subscribers monthly.

These collectors generally meet with a very cordial reception from the subscribers, and it becomes one means of bringing cases of sickness or affliction or other need to the attention of the Rector If every communicant and every adult member of the congregation would subscribe for one share each, it would give us some $1500 to $2000 yearly. And with some subscribing, as during the past year, for ten, twenty, and even thirty shares, a much larger amount would be raised, and very soon our whole debt would be extinguished.

Notwithstanding the fact that some withdrew their subscriptions to the Parish Aid Society, on account of their subscribing to the Improvement Fund, others increased their subscriptions, so that there was a total increase over those for 1888 of $256.15. It is earnestly hoped that the members of the congregation generally will this year unite in an effort to largely increase the subscriptions to this Society. In the matter of continuous, persistent, self-denying work in raising funds to meet the current expenses of the church, as well as in all other Christian work, the Apostle's exhortation is applicable, "Be not weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." I take this occasion most heartily to thank those who, as subscribers and collectors, have aided in this good work; and thanks are especially due to the members of the Vestry who, the last year, led off in this by generous subscriptions.

Our collections for current expenses have been more than up to the average, though they were less than those for 1888, which were unusually large. Were it always realized that these collections form a part of our "devotions," as the rubric calls them, and were they thank-offerings to Almighty God for the mercies and blessings

constantly received from him—offerings prompted by grateful love—they would certainly be larger than now. Some of the small coins, coming from the poor, I know, mean much; but others, coming from those better able to give, given without thought and without heart, are, I fear, an insult to God. I pray you, friends, as you put your contributions on the plate, think to whom you are offering them. "He that soweth little shall reap little, and he that soweth plenteously shall reap plenteously. Let every man do according as he is disposed in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver."

We are indebted to the Young People's Association for their very efficient help. I give below the reports of their President and Treasurer.

Report of the President of the Young People's Association.

The Young People's Association has completed another successful year of its existence. Although not as aggressive as in the past season, the work has been steadily carried on.

Two small entertainments were held during the year, and in the latter part a supper and bazaar, the proceeds of which were used to extinguish the deficit in the Parish Building Improvement Fund, and the balance for the furnishing of the church parlor. The work of the Association has been valuable in all departments of church work, and deserves the hearty encouragement of the members of the church to uphold it in its continued work.

E. D. JOHNSTON,
President.

Report of Treasurer of Young People's Association.

1889. Receipts.

Jan.	1.	Balance cash on hand		$23 04
Dec.	31.	Membership dues		13 85
"	31.	Receipts for entertainments	$18 20	
"	31.	" "	36 50	
				54 70
"	31.	" A-B-C Supper		287 23
				$378 82

1889. Expenditures.

Dec.	31.	Cost of curtains		$9 76
"	31.	Expenses entertainments	$14 50	
"	31.	" "	15 77	
				30 27
"	31.	Expenses A-B-C Supper		113 83
"	31.	Amount running expenses		10 10
"	31.	Amount paid J. D. C. Walsh account of deficit Sunday-school Improvement Fund		123 34
"	31.	Balance on hand	$50 06	
"	31.	" "	41 46	
				91 52
				$378 82

JAMES H. M. HAYES,
Treasurer.

Philadelphia, January 15th, 1890.

I most cordially endorse the words of the President, that this Association deserves the hearty encouragement of the members of the church to uphold it in its continued work. We owe this Association a large debt of gratitude for its valuable aid in the past, and so I trust we shall remain in continual indebtedness to it in the future. May it ever be an efficient and valued helper in the work

of the church. God bless you, my dear young friends, for the encouragement and help you have given to me, your Rector.

Report of the Ladies' Guild for the Year 1889.

Early in the year the members of the Guild made and donated to the Episcopal Hospital thirty-two garments. They distributed five garments in the Parish, and gave to the Sheltering Arms a dozen garments and a dozen comfortables.

The sum of $5 was contributed in response to an appeal from Mrs. Spalding for assistance in raising funds for the erection of a new hospital building at Denver. Some dry goods were sent for Mrs. Brent's family, and a barrel of clothing for her mission.

At the close of the spring work the ladies donated to the Consumptives' Home at Chestnut Hill ten sheets, a dozen towels, six pairs of crocheted slippers, and some linen. Before Christmas another box was sent to the same institution; it contained twelve woolen garments, also Christmas cards, for the patients.

The ladies have recently begun to do more sewing at their meetings, instead of taking most of the work home as formerly; and find it very pleasant to meet in this way.

Receipts.

From dues	$42 85
" donations	29 66
" subscriptions	45 75
Total receipts for 1889	$118 26
Balance January 1st, 1889	2 25
	$120 51

EXPENDITURES.

Materials for garments donated	$38 34
Amount contributed for St. Luke's Hospital, Denver, Col.	5 00
Money-order for same	05
Easter decorations	30 00
Dry goods sent to Mrs. Brent	16 40
Postage-stamps	2 40
Freight on goods sent to Mrs. Brent	1 25
Christmas donation to sexton	5 00
Laundry work	20 50
Balance in hands of Treasurer	1 57
	$120 51

The Ladies' Guild also deserves our cordial sympathy and encouragement. In a quiet, humble, unostentatious way it is accomplishing a great deal of helpful and charitable work. I earnestly beg the ladies of the congregation to help on this work by their presence and sympathy and material aid.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH FOR 1889.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1888		$77 97
Collections	$352 22	
Collections for Improvement Fund	633 22	
Easter Offering	53 07	
Entertainment	29 90	
Entertainment by Class No. 10	21 45	
		1,089 86
		$1,167 83

EXPENDITURES.

Committee on Improvements		$654 67
Accounting Warden for tenor		125 00
Running expenses		218 63
MISSIONS :—		
Bishop J. A. Paddock	$43 57	
Home for Crippled Children	9 50	
		53 07
Balance on hand		116 46
		$1,167 83

R. S. HUBBARD,
Treasurer of the Sunday-school Association.

The Sunday-school continues to be in a very efficient condition, though we have suffered the loss of some of our best teachers, and have been unable as yet to supply the places of all who have left. The consequence has been that several of the classes have been disbanded. This loss has taken place mostly on the boys' side. We used to be able to boast of the larger number of male scholars, but now the preponderance is on the girls' side.

Most of the losses of teachers have now been supplied, and a gentleman of large experience in teaching is ready to take one of the disbanded classes as soon as the scholars can be gathered together.

Since the resignation of Mr. Johnson last spring, the Rector has taken the superintendence of the school and finds it one of his most delightful duties. It is indeed a supreme delight to him to look around upon the school and see himself sustained, in this blessed work of feeding Christ's lambs, by such a body of faithful, earnest, able,

and devoted teachers, amid such a large gathering of interested and well-behaved scholars. The Rector has lately adopted an abbreviation of the Evening Service of the Book of Common Prayer for the opening of the school, with great acceptance to the teachers and scholars. The scholars join in the service, and make their responses very heartily; and the Rector believes it will prove, as it has proved in other Sunday-schools under his charge, the best possible preparation and training of the scholars for taking their part in the services of the church.

A Bible class for men was begun last spring, which now numbers 19 on the roll, and is constantly increasing. This class promises to be a great instrumentality for good. It furnished one member for Confirmation in 1889. May many precious souls from all the classes be gathered into the church, and become earnest, active workers in Christ's cause!

Report of the Secretary of the Sunday-school.

The whole number of officers, teachers, and scholars, including the Bible classes, on the rolls during the year was as follows:—

Officers	5
Teachers, male	12
" female	27
Scholars, Main School, male	163
" " female	150
" Infant Class, male	73
" " female	63
Musicians	4
Librarians	4
	501

Average attendance in December:—

Scholars, Main School, male	84
" " female	96
" Infant Class, male	40
" " female	45
Teachers, officers, &c.	41
	306
Largest attendance in December	345

The prevailing epidemic caused a large falling off in the attendance of teachers and scholars.

Among the teachers and scholars of the Sunday-school two chapters of the King's Daughters have been formed. One, the Willing Ten, held a fair in November last, the proceeds of which were $70. $30 of this were given to the Home for Colored Crippled Children, $30 were given for the furnishing of bed in St. Christopher's Hospital, and $10 they retain as a nest-egg for further work in the future. Concerning the other chapter, the following report has been handed me:—

The work during the year 1889 has been confined chiefly to making garments and comfortables for the Homes for Crippled Children, white and colored, and the Home for Consumptives. At the time of the Johnstown disaster they made, collected, and packed four large boxes of clothing for the sufferers. At Christmas they sent a box of toys, candies, and books to the Home for Colored Cripples. Receipts, $18.34; expenses, $15.68.

These receipts and expenses are not included in the general receipts and expenses, not having come to hand in time to be thus included.

With all our heart we say: Well done, dear children! It is most encouraging to see our Sunday-school scholars thus putting into practice the lessons they are learning. This is the true spirit of Christ. God bless you, and further you in all such works undertaken for His name's sake!

It becomes also my very pleasant duty to commend the Sunday-school for what it has done for the Improvement Fund. I must confess that it has exceeded my most sanguine expectations. I thought the school was undertaking too much in pledging themselves as they did. But they have not only redeemed, they have exceeded, their pledges. Notwithstanding the disbanding of some of the classes, and the failure of one individual pledge of $50, they have given, up to the present time (January 22d) more than $700 to the Improvement Fund, their pledge being for $696.80. Add to this, amount collected by the school in 1888 for this fund, $231.50, and the whole amount contributed by the school to the Improvement Fund will probably exceed $940. The estimated cost of these improvements, as given in my last annual statement, was $1150. The actual cost was $1713.38, all of which has been paid for. These improvements have added very greatly to the comfort and appearance of our Sunday-school room, and other rooms. We now have a parish building pleasing in appearance and admirably adapted to the purposes for which such buildings are used. With this, and with our beautiful, comfortable, and home-like church, we have every reason to be grateful to God for what He has enabled us to accomplish in the past few years, and to look forward with hope to the future.

Fourteenth Annual Report of St. Matthew's Yearly Beneficial Association, for the Year 1889.

Receipts.

From dues	$3,005 55	
" fines	48 35	
" assessments	1,171 50	
		$4,225 40
" reserve fund from 1888		120 15
		$4,345 55

Expenditures.

General fund, sick benefits, &c.	$2,520 80	
Reserve fund, gratuities to sick, &c.	212 30	
Funeral benefit fund	1,200 00	
		3,933 10
		$412 45
Amount due special fund for 1890		120 50
" applicable to dividend (approximated)		$291 95

Number of members on roll at last report	399	
" " elected during the year	25	
		424
" " resigned " "	2	
" " dropped " "	24	
" " died " "	7	
		33
Total number of members in good standing beginning of 1890		391

Seven members died during the year, and the wives of two members.

The Association has paid out since its organization $12,934.94 in sick benefits, and $5761 in funeral benefits.

JOHN JAY GILROY,
Recording Secretary.

Baptisms for the year: Adult, 2; infant, 17; total, 19. Confirmed, 8. Communicants, 410, Marriages, 7. Burials, 19.

This closes my ninth annual statement; and thus the years, with the record of our work, are flitting by in rapid succession; the real record, not this meagre outline and summary, but the record of what each one of us has done or left undone. And remember it is the *things left undone* which Jesus specifies as the chief cause of condemnation at the judgment-day; not that ye committed this sin or that sin, but "Inasmuch as ye *did it not.*" Duties left unperformed; opportunities allowed to pass unimproved: talents gone to waste or misused, that might have been employed in the service of Christ and of our fellow-men; what we ought to have done with Christ's example before us, and Christ's constraining love in our hearts, and our sinning, suffering fellow-men pleading for our help; the light of eternity thrown upon these words, "Ye are not your own, ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in body and in spirit, which are His."

Would that we might realize the inestimable value of this quickly-passing time, and the blessedness and glory of this service to which we have been called. A service full of rich and sweet compensations here on earth, and its eternal fruitage beyond all possible conception or desire. To have Christ say to us on that day, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord;" to meet souls rescued from sin, uplifted to that ineffable glory and blessedness, transformed into the very image and likeness of the All-lovely One, through our instrumentality, what overwhelming joy and gladness, how infinitely will this repay the toils and endurances, and self-denials which Christ's faithful service may demand of us

now. O brethren, be up and doing for your Lord and Saviour while the day lasts, for soon the night cometh when no man can work.

Your friend and pastor,

JOHN P. HUBBARD.

JANUARY 24th, 1890.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

Bequests of money or real estate should be made *to the Rector, Church Wardens, and Vestrymen of St. Matthew's Church, Francisville, City of Philadelphia.*

The object may be stated thus, *in trust for the purchase or erection of a Rectory:* or *for an Endowment Fund, the interest of which is to be applied to the payment of the Current Expenses of said Church.*

ANNUAL STATEMENT

TO THE

PARISHIONERS

OF

St. Matthew's Church,

FRANCISVILLE,

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.,

FOR THE YEAR 1890.

PHILADELPHIA:
ALLEN, LANE & SCOTT'S PRINTING HOUSE,
Nos. 229-231-233 South Fifth Street.
1891.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners:

I herewith submit my annual statement for the year 1890, and also a brief summary for the ten years of my rectorship, from 1880 to 1891.

The receipts and expenditures have been as follows:—

Receipts for 1890.

Pew-rents	$2,817 25
Parish Aid Society	420 50
Collections for current expenses	780 77
For Convention Fund, 1889 and 1890	179 00
For Improvement Fund	144 15
Interest	10 05
Collection for Missions	415 26
Lenten collections	68 25
Communion collections	217 90
Donations	193 30
Sunday-school	542 44
Young People's Association	321 73
Ladies' Guild	89 63
From King's Daughters	27
Total receipts for 1890	$6,227 23

Balances, January 1st, 1890.

Accounting Warden	$256 05	
Communion Fund	14 61	
Ladies' Guild	1 57	
Young People's Asssociation	91 52	
Improvement fund	376 29	
Sunday-school	116 46	
		856 50
		$7,083 73

Expenditures for 1890.

Salaries	$2,920 09	
Interest on mortgage	260 00	
Gas, coal, and water	348 40	
Music	98 32	
Sundries	409 80	
Repairs	245 59	
Improvements	642 81	
Sunday-school	426 42	
Ladies' Guild	56 00	
Young People's Association	85 27	
		$5,492 70

Missions and Charities.

Foreign Missions	$49 26	
Dr. James Phillips, for India	30 00	
McCall Mission, Paris	27 00	
American Church Missionary Society	27 02	
Mission to Colored People	35 00	
Northwestern Convocation (Diocesan Missions)	143 48	
Sundry Missions, Lent offerings, &c.	72 75	
Episcopal and Convention Fund for 1889 and 1890	192 33	
Home for Crippled Children	13 91	
Home for Homeless	10 00	
Poor	243 67	
Church Home, Germantown	40 00	
Episcopal Hospital	52 76	
City Mission	82 92	
Deaf Mutes	45 57	
Evangelical Educational Society	16 04	
Fund for Disabled Clergymen	17 23	
Bishop Paddock, Oregon	25 00	
		1,123 94
Total expenditures for 1890		$6,616 64

Balances, January 1st, 1891.

Accounting Warden	$254 49	
Sunday-school	125 73	
Young People's Association	85 17	
Ladies' Guild	1 70	
		$467 09
		$7,083 73

Indebtedness, January 1st, 1891.

Accrued interest		$50 00
Salaries		933 34
Coal bill		165 00
Outstanding bills		100 00
		$1,248 34
Balances, January 1st, 1891	$467 09	
Pew-rents, supposed good	150 00	
		617 09
Floating indebtedness		$631 25
Mortgage		5,200 00
Total indebtedness January 1st, 1891		$5,831 25
" " " " 1890		6,012 10
Decrease of indebtedness for 1890		$180 85

It is gratifying to observe that, while we have paid $642.81 for improvements, we have also reduced our indebtedness $180.05.

Summary for Ten Years, from 1880 to 1891.

Receipts.

Pew-rents		$30,249 99
Parish Aid Society		9,245 12
Collections for current expenses, five years		2,930 73
Donations, &c.		19,834 43
Communion collections		2,115 89
Ladies' Guild, nine years		3 570 16
Young People's Association, five years		3,177 78
Sunday-school		6,297 27
		$77,421 37
Collected by the Rector from friends outside the Church		5,385 00
Total receipts for ten years		$82,806 37

Expenditures.

General current expenses		$47,754 34	
Interest on debt		5,379 91	
Insurance		653 00	
Total current expenses		$53,787 25	
Church improvements	$12,696 71		
Paid reduction of debt	7,900 00		
Missions and charities	8,003 92		
		28,600 63	
			82,387 88
Balance of receipts, showing amount of reduction of floating indebtedness			$418 49

I would call attention to the notable fact, that whilst we have been losing some of our wealthier people, causing a falling off in the pew-rents, yet, with a people, less able pecuniarily, there has been a steady increase in our mis-

sionary and charitable offerings. This shows a healthy increase of missionary spirit, which is one of the chief indications of spiritual life and progress.

For this the Lord be praised! May He give us more and more the Spirit of His dear Son, whose very meat and drink it was to be ever doing these works of love and saving mercy!

You will notice that $28,600.63 were expended on church improvements, reduction of debt, and missions and charities. Up to the close of the year 1887 we were making steady and most encouraging progress towards the extinguishment of the mortgage debt upon our church property. Between January, 1883, and January, 1888 (including balances of $100 then in hand for that object), this debt was reduced from $12,000 to $5200. In 1888 the Vestry deemed it better to concentrate all our efforts on the payment of the floating debt. I doubted the wisdom of changing a policy which had proved so successful; but, at the request of the Vestry, I ceased soliciting contributions and donations for payment of the main debt. In consequence nothing has been paid on the debt, except the $100 (balances above referred to), for the past three years. The Young People's Association had entered into the plan of extinguishing the mortgage debt with great zeal and enthusiasm, and it greatly damped their ardor to have to cease their efforts for this object.

The Sunday-school also had pledged itself to raise $2000 towards payment of the debt. Had the previous policy been continued to the present time, the mortgage would probably have been entirely paid. It should, however, be considered that during this interval we have made expenditures for improvements of the Parish Building amounting to $2623.73.

It is now time that we should resume our former policy, and make it one of our chief objects to pay off the mortgage. This debt should be a burden on our hearts and consciences till it ceases to be a burden on the House of God. By earnestly applying ourselves to it we could pay off this incumbrance within the current year. It is true that we do not need to pay off this debt in order to have our Church consecrated, as we had supposed. I learned from Bishop Howe, a fact afterwards corroborated by Dr. Childs, that our Church had been already consecrated. But this very fact should be a mighty incentive to us to get this building, thus consecrated to God, free from all indebtedness. We owe it to the honor of His Name to accomplish this. The action of our House of Bishops in refusing to consecrate churches with incumbrances upon them shows clearly and emphatically their judgment that any debt upon the House of God is fundamentally wrong.

You will notice the reduction of receipts from the Parish Aid Society. This has been in part owing to the diversion of receipts from the Sunday-school to other objects. Formerly the Sunday-school contributed from $400 to $500 yearly towards the Parish Aid Society. But, whilst ceasing to do for this Society, the gain has been very large in other directions. The Sunday-school is now self-supporting. Formerly its expenses were paid by the Church; the balance from the Parish Aid in favor of the Church being thus very much reduced. Our collections for current expenses in 1890, amounting to $755.42, have also tended to lessen the receipts of the Parish Aid. But, allowing for all this, there has still been a constant falling off of its receipts.

I cannot myself conceive of a better system for raising money for church expenses. It is simple. It distributes

the burden and makes it as light as possible. A share in the Parish Aid only calls for the payment of ten cents a week, an amount that could be saved by walking instead of riding in the cars twice during the week.

I learn that the plan of the Parish Aid Society was originally conceived by Mr. J. P. Mumford. He informs me that in its "complete development the plan embraced all the various lines of endeavor now covered by the Society, and the Ladies' Guild, and the Young People's Association, working as developments of the Society. An essential feature of the plan was a quarterly social reunion of all the members, at which progress in the various lines was reported, and the evening concluded with an attractive entertainment." It is well worth while considering whether such a social reunion as was contemplated by Mr. Mumford, and for a while carried into effect with much success, could not again be inaugurated, to be held at least bi-ennially. Mr. Henry D'Olier, the General Secretary of this Society, is at present busy in an effort to put into it new life and vigor. I bespeak for him your cordial and earnest co-operation and sympathy. Why will not every member of the Church and congregation subscribe for one share, or if not this, for one-half a share? If every communicant, not to speak of others, would subscribe for one share each, it would aggregate a sum of over $1000.

Our expenses since 1881 have been considerably reduced. In 1881 we paid for interest on ground-rents and note to building association $800. In 1890 we paid $260. In 1881 we paid for insurance $119.50. In 1890 we paid nothing, making a total gain in the reduction of current expenses of $659.52. We should, therefore, be able easily to raise by persistent effort from our current receipts at least $500 yearly towards extinguishment of debt. My

brethren, will you not make such effort? Do you not owe this much to Christ and His Church? It is for *patient continuance* in well doing that we shall earn His "Well done, good and faithful servant."

The floating debt has been an incumbrance as far back as the accounts run. In 1878 Dr. Kellogg reported it to be $2000. During the past ten years it has ranged from $1099.65 in 1881, and $1138.88 in 1882, down to $220.82. It is now $531.25. Let us endeavor this year to wipe this out and bring the balance to the credit side of the account.

What we need, to make these various suggestions accomplished facts, is united purpose and endeavor under the realization of Christ's constraining love.

Much has been accomplished during these past ten years. In 1881 the Church edifice was in a dilapidated condition, the walls stained with water from a leaky roof. It was a gloomy, unattractive building. The Parish Building was in scarce better condition. The furnace was so badly arranged as to be utterly inadequate for heating the building. The teachers and scholars often suffered greatly from the cold, and, in consequence, were sometimes prevented from attendance.

To-day there are no pleasanter and better buildings for church purposes in the city. The Church is exceedingly attractive and homelike, and it is greatly admired by those seeing it for the first time. Both the Church and the Parish Building have been painted and decorated throughout; many interior improvements have been made, adding to the comfort and beauty. An inside ceiling of wood in the Sunday-school room makes it warmer in winter and cooler in summer. An additional heater, and altogether new arrangement of pipes, by which the heat is conducted directly to the Sunday-school room, instead of passing up

through the cold outside walls as formerly, prevents all trouble in heating the room. The Parish Building is now comfortable throughout even in the coldest weather.

Add to these great improvements in our Church buildings the large reduction of our debt, and the corresponding reduction of our current expenses, and we have much reason for thankfulness to God for what He has enabled us to accomplish, and much reason to go forward in our work for the Church with increased hopefulness for the future.

Report of the Treasurer Young People's Association.

Receipts as Follows:—

1890.			
Jan. 1.	Balance on hand		$91 52
July 1.	Proceeds entertainment	$3 40	
May 12.	" May festival and apron sale	284 83	
Dec. 31.	Membership dues	18 00	
" 31.	Interest on account to date	15 50	
			321 73
			$413 25

Expenditures as Follows:—

May 12.	Expenses of May festival and apron sale	$56 95	
Dec. 31.	General expenses	28 32	
" 31.	For improvement of Church parlor and furnishing same	242 81	
			$328 08
"	Balance in hands of treasurer		85 17
			$413 25

JAMES H. M. HAYES,
Treasurer.

During the past year the Young People's Association has done much to beautify and make comfortable and attractive our Church parlor. They have expended for this object $242.81. We are greatly indebted to the generosity of Mr. John Stafford, who, through Mr. Edwin H. Bonsall, donated a very handsome brass chandelier and side fixtures to aid the ladies in their undertaking. It was a voluntary and entirely unsolicited gift, for which we tender our grateful thanks.

In making his report the Treasurer requests me, on behalf of the Association, to make acknowledgment of their sense of obligation to the President, Miss A. McC. Hubbard, "for her very efficient administration and untiring zeal in its interest and advancement." To which I would add my own grateful acknowledgment of the zeal and industry of all the members of this Association. The Church owes them a great deal for what they have accomplished. During the little more than five years of its existence the Association has raised $3177.78, or, adding for expenses deducted in Statement for 1886, $357.93, the total amount is $3535.71. From this they have paid $1134 in reduction of the mortgage, and $700 on the floating debt; in all, for reduction of indebtedness, $1834; for improvements of the Parish building, $366.15; for piano, $250; and there is a balance in the treasury of $85.17—truly a goodly showing. In addition to what it has thus accomplished, the Association has been very helpful in bringing the young people together socially, and furnishing them with innocent and healthful recreation. To furnish such recreation is no small part of the Church's duty to the young.

Besides their regular work, as thus reported, several members of the Association have been meeting together

weekly to work for the poor, doing similar work to that done by the King's Daughters.

May the presence and blessing of God be with this Association, leading them on to increasing efficiency and usefulness!

Report of the Ladies' Guild for the Year 1890.

During the year twelve garments have been made and donated to the Episcopal Hospital, fifteen to the Sheltering Arms, and thirty-eight distributed in the parish.

A package of toys and thirty-four garments have been sent to the City Mission.

At the opening of the Home for the Aged in Germantown two comfortables and seventy-six towels were donated to that institution.

On Thanksgiving Day a box of fruit was sent to the Consumptives' Home at Chestnut Hill, and also a basket of fruit to the House of Mercy.

Receipts.

From dues	$21 13
" donations	14 25
" subscriptions	51 70
" sales	2 55
Total receipts for 1890	$89 63
Balance, January 1st, 1890	1 57
	$91 20

Expenditures.

Materials for garments donated	$27 10
Easter decorations	30 00
Laundry work	26 00
Fruit sent to Chestnut Hill	5 70
Freight on goods sent to Germantown and Chestnut Hill	70
Balance in hands of Treasurer	1 70
	$91 20

The Ladies' Guild was organized in 1882, and has been in operation for nine years. During this period it has raised in various ways $3570, most of which has gone to Church improvements. It has also done a quiet but effective work in the making and distributing of garments among the poor, and also has aided Mrs. Brent in her work among the Freedmen of Virginia.

Much of the work done by the Guild during the earlier years of its organization has since then devolved upon the Young People's Association. The Guild has given its cordial sympathy and assistance to that Association.

It is a great regret to me that so many of the ladies of the Church keep themselves so entirely apart from the Guild and its work. I had hoped that it would be a means of bringing all our ladies together in Christian sympathy and co-operation in good works. I know that domestic duties absorb nearly the whole time of some. But surely even these could become members of the Guild and show their sympathy by occasional attendance. Christ instituted His Church as a social organization for mutual help and for united work. We each one of us owe a duty to the Church, to make it what Christ designed it to be. Coming together for the worship of God is a very small part of that duty. Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for it, and He must regard most jealously our individual attitude towards it, what we are doing, or what we are leaving undone, towards promoting its spiritual welfare and efficiency. The efficiency of the Ladies' Guild could be greatly increased if all the ladies of the Church would do their duty towards it. I pray you, dear friends, for the Master's sake, give this Society your sympathy and aid.

Report of the Secretary of the Sunday-school.

Officers	9
Teachers, male	9
" female	26
Scholars, Main School, male	126
" " female	206
" Infant Class, boys now on the roll	62
" " " promoted to Main School	13
" " " who have left during the year	12
" " girls now on the roll	45
" " " promoted	14
" " " who have left during the year	10
" " " died	1
	506

Average attendance	277
Largest " except Easter and Christmas	349
Smallest " " "	201

T. R. COGGESHALL,
Secretary.

Report of the Treasurer of the Sunday-school Association.

Receipts.

Balance from 1889	$116 46
Collections	419 20
Special collections	106 74
Donations	16 50
	$658 90

Expenditures.

Expenses	$426 42
Missions and charities	106 75
Balance on hand	125 73
	$658 90

R. S. HUBBARD,
Treasurer.

These reports show the continued prosperity of our school. On the boys' side there has been indeed a large falling off from former years, when the boys outnumbered the girls. But such fluctuations of scholars, and especially on the boys' side, are the ordinary experience of all Sunday-schools. The want of teachers for the boys' classes has been our one great need. Could teachers be obtained our school could be largely increased. But whilst it would be matter for devout thankfulness to see such increase, we rejoice in what is being done, and in the general efficient condition of our school. We have a body of able and zealous teachers, devoted to their duties, some of them coming from long distances, who have the confidence and love of their scholars. It is a delightful and soul-refreshing duty to superintend such a school, and witness the blessed work going on in sowing the seeds of Gospel truth and Christian love in so many young hearts. The Rector would once more express his heartfelt thanks to the teachers and other officers of the school, and his gratitude to Almighty God for giving him such zealous coworkers.

The Bible Class for men, commenced February 9th, 1889, has continued to increase in numbers, having 27 on the roll during the year. It now numbers 25. Six members of this class were confirmed in April, three of whom received adult baptism. One of these, Mr. William K. Smith, after a protracted and painful illness very patiently borne, fell asleep in Jesus, December 17th, in the fiftieth year of his age. This class has become a great power for good in the Church. God's presence and guidance and blessing have been with it from the beginning.

The Chinese Branch of the Sunday-school of St. Matthew's Church.

Application was made to the Rector in June last on behalf of a Sunday-school for Chinese, then meeting in the Green Hill Presbyterian Church. Extensive additions and improvements were about to be made in that church, and so notice was given that the Chinese school could no longer be accommodated there. In their dilemma they came to us as the nearest church, to ask if we would not furnish the needful accommodation.

After consulting with Mr. John J. Gilroy, who occupied the only room available for the purpose, and obtaining his cordial approval, I very gladly gave my assent to the Chinese occupying the lecture room after 3.30 P. M. on the condition of its becoming a branch of St. Matthew's Sunday-school, and under the Rector's control and supervision.

The Superintendent, Mrs. F. E. Nash, reports that this school was organized September 26th, 1886, with 5 teachers and 15 scholars. It now numbers 70 teachers and 72 scholars. The average attendance is 50 teachers and 50 scholars. Five of the scholars are Church members, and many are trying to lead a Christian life. Four, who have moved away, have also become members of the Church.

The instruction at first is very elementary; but from the beginning the Bible is made the text-book One of the exercises of the school is the committing to memory and repeating important verses of the Bible; and to hear a heathen man repeating such a verse as "God so loved the world as to give His only begotten Son," &c., cannot fail to enlist the sympathy and prayers of the Christian.

Mixed motives may bring these Chinese to the Sunday-school, but this is true of all Sunday-schools. In the meanwhile these heathen men are learning Christian truths, and, what is more, are seeing and feeling Christian charity. Taking it all in all, it is a Christ-like work, a work which, I believe, would win the approval and sympathy of any who closely watched it. I have now had considerable opportunity of observing it, and it constantly gains upon my high approval and heart sympathy. Similar schools have been established in connection with St. Andrew's, the Epiphany, and Zion Churches. We are sending missionaries abroad to carry the Gospel to the heathen, how much more should we welcome and aid the heathen coming to us and asking instruction. Especially should we, the childern of the Gentiles, who owe everything to the missionaries of the early Church, show our gratitude for the blessings which we possess by extending them to others. I commend this branch of the school to your Christian sympathy and prayers.

The two chapters of King's Daughters, formed in 1889 by the teachers and members of the Sunday-school, have continued their activity in good works the past year. I subjoin their reports. A third chapter has been formed recently. Here is substantial evidence of the practical efficiency of our Sunday-school. May these good examples be followed by others.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF KING'S DAUGHTERS CIRCLE.

1890.		
Jan. 1.	Balance on hand	$2 66
	Dues and fines from members	17 25
		$19 91

Expenses as follows:—		
	Material for garments	$4 16
	Easter entertainment for colored cripples	3 50
	Subscription to books and Central Council	2 00
	Assistance to poor family	6 00
	Sundries	90
		$16 56
Balance in hand of treasurer		3 35
		$19 91

In addition to their regular work the Circle represented St. Matthew's Church at a fair for the benefit of the Northwest Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, held in November, and by their efforts were enabled to add to the fund $58.17, net proceeds of their department.

ANNA HAYES,
Treasurer.

Miss S. W. Coster, the Secretary of the Willing Ten, reports the donation to Mrs. Hinchman of $2; to the Children's Country Week Association, $5; Christmas dinner for a poor family, $1.28; one dozen aprons for Children's Home at Rosemont; flannel for children at Episcopal Hospital; and two boxes of toys to the Home for Feeble Minded Children at Media.

BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH.

I have no report from this Association, but can say that it still continues its efficient organization and work. Its membership is limited to 400; but for this limitation it

might have been very largely increased. As fast as any members fall out other applicants are ready to take their places. It has now been in existence fifteen years. During this period it has paid out in sick benefits (estimating the amount for 1890 by the amounts for the two previous years) about $14,000, and in funeral benefits about $7,000. The amount of good done in times of sickness, and of sore need to widows and fatherless children, God only knows. But that much good has been thus done we have abundant evidence. This Beneficial Association well deserves our sympathy and earnest encouragement. We are glad and thankful to have it bear the name of St. Matthew's Church.

Baptisms for the year: Adults, 8; infants, 12; total, 20. Confirmed, 23. Marriages, 12. Burials, 28.

During the past ten years there have been baptized: Adults, 42; infants, 147; total, 189. Confirmed, 164. Marriages, 53. Burials, 152.

Of the 164 confirmed, 125 have been from the Sunday-school and 7 from the Men's Bible Class. Of the 152 buried, 56 were communicants.

As I look over this list of the departed ones, many sad and many precious memories come back to me. I am reminded of death-beds, where outward darkness and suffering were illumined by the presence of Christ, and by the rejoicing hope of heavenly glory. Some were taken in early infancy, and some in extreme old age, one at the advanced age of 97. Among these were saintly women, who, during their long lifetime, by their meekness and patience and Christian love, adorned the doctrine of God their Saviour in all things; and have left to their children, and their children's children, the blessed heritage of their holy examples.

In looking over the list of those confirmed, I am reminded of precious souls earnestly, anxiously, seeking instruction as to the way of life; who have become peaceful and rejoicing believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, and are bringing honor to Him by their consistent lives and conversation. Some precious fruits have been gathered during these ten years of labor for Christ; and to my co-laborers in the Sunday-school and other church work, I may consistently repeat the word of Scripture encouragement, "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever." Had the spirit which animated some been in all hearts, we should be rejoicing today in more abundant fruitage and greater spiritual prosperity as a church. God help us to be more diligent and earnest in doing our Master's work during the brief time remaining to us, that we may be enabled to rejoice before Him at His coming and kingdom!

Your friend and pastor,

JOHN P. HUBBARD.

JANUARY 20th, 1891.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

Bequests of money or real estate should be made *to the Rector, Church Wardens, and Vestrymen of St. Matthew's Church, Francisville, City of Philadelphia.*

The object may be stated thus, *in trust for the purchase or erection of a Rectory:* or *for an Endowment Fund, the interest of which is to be applied to the payment of the Current Expenses of said Church.*